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Approved For Release 2000/04/18 : CIA-RDP91T01172R000200030001-7

47-20

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

1. Military Situation.

According to latest official reports from Seoul, after initial penetrations by the Northern Korean Army to within approximately 15 miles of Seoul, the Korean Army has achieved considerable stabilization along the main line of defense 25 miles north of Seoul. Several minor offensive actions by the Southern Korean Army have been reported, including attacks by A-1H aircraft armed with napalm against the tank concentrations 15 miles north of Seoul. Later unofficial press reports state that: (a) a northern tank and artillery concentration has broken through the main defensive positions around Uijongju, 15 miles north of Seoul; and (b) the northern Korean column is now only 9 miles from Seoul. The northern Korean Army has committed 4 divisions with an estimated 90 tanks. Late press reports also indicate employment of northern Korean aircraft to strafe Seoul. It is estimated that the Northern Korean Army has the capability to continue its concentrated drive on Seoul, and to make further audacious landings. Unless the Southern Korean Army receives immediate artillery and air support, the Northern Korean Army will enter Seoul within 3 days.

2. Political Potential.

At latest reports, the morale of the Government of the Republic of Korea (ROK) was reasonably good. The assembly met on June 26 and demonstrated reasonably calm spirit. President Yoon has been reported to be deeply perturbed at what he feels to be the possibility of continued resistance without aircraft and artillery. On June 26, Seoul times, he indicated his personal decision to evict his Government north to Injeon but at latest reports this evacuation decision has not been implemented nor does it meet with the approval of other Government leaders. No elements of the Government, however,

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have not displayed any intention of taking over from Hsin or forcing him to adopt a firmer attitude. It is estimated the Government will remain firm for at least two days. If or when Seoul falls the Government's firm attitude toward control of the military and political situation will deteriorate seriously. The resistance, however, should not cease, particularly if a large segment of high level Government personnel is committed and central command of the Army is maintained.

3. Soviet Intentions.

The north Korean attack represents a Soviet effort to inflict a heavy blow at US prestige and anti-Communist morale throughout the world, particularly in Asia. In addition, the USSR is attempting to probe US reaction with a view to determining the likelihood for further Soviet or Communist expansion. If the attack fails to produce effective US counter-measures, the Kremlin will be encouraged both to adopt a more vigorous policy in other areas, particularly in Southeast Asia, and to give the Chinese Communists greater support in the invasion of Taiwan. The USSR is not presently willing to accept global war and will, if confronted with firm and effective US counter-measures, either disclaim or otherwise localize the Korean conflict.

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DM-20

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17-22

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Latest official reports (as of 2200, 26 June, Washington time) indicate that the capture of Seoul is imminent and that no concerted attempt is being made by southern forces to withdraw for continued resistance south of the capital. All southern troops have been committed to the defense of Seoul and at least one of the four divisions in the Seoul area has been demoralized and cut-up. Southern forces have held in areas east of Seoul and along the east coast, but critical ammunition shortages are developing and a reported landing 35 miles northeast of Pusan threatens to cut over-land supply route from Pusan to the north and east.

Northern forces still have adequate reserves and are capable of launching further large-scale offensives all along the line from Seoul to the east coast. Southern Korean units, their morale deteriorating, are incapable of resisting the determined artillery-tank-air assaults with the equipment now available. Unless southern army believes strong US assistance is imminent, their organized resistance will collapse completely with the fall of Seoul. Latest press reports are more optimistic. For example, the southern Korean Minister in Tokyo has announced that southern forces have launched an offensive north of Seoul. Although these reports attest to the confusion prevailing in the area, CIA does not believe the southern forces are capable of mounting a sustained offensive at this time.

II. Survival Potential.

The President and Cabinet of the Republic of Korea are reported in official US traffic to have left Seoul, probably for Chinhee in southeastern Korea. In view of the brief time available for evacuation it is doubtful if sufficient numbers of government operating personnel have left Seoul to make the government effective at a new location. The Premier, reportedly despairing of "saving anything," has handed over full authority to the Army Chief of Staff. The latter appears equally hopeless in the rapidly deteriorating situation. His morale probably reflects the morale situation throughout the South Korean officer corps.

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in the face of the enemy's exclusive possession of tanks and preponderance of fighter aircraft. The fall of Seoul appears to be immediately imminent. The chances of organized resistance being maintained after Seoul's fall are, at best, minimal, in view of the Chief of Staff's opinion that when Seoul falls resistance is useless, the exhaustion of many types of ammunition employed by ROK forces, and the commitment of all southern forces to the defense of Seoul. It is problematical whether cohesive southern Korean resistance will continue beyond the next 24 hours.

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017-23

28 June 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Information received from General MacArthur's Headquarters (CINCPAC) at 0700 on 28 June Washington time states that both Kimp'o airfield and Seoul have fallen to northern forces. There was no indication of surrender by southern forces and northern forces were reported contained north of the Han River. Press reports state, however, that the northern advance has continued across the Han in the direction of Suwon, 20 miles south of Seoul. There are no reports on the military effectiveness of US air intervention, but CINCPAC reports a maximum effort consistent with safety is scheduled for Thursday Korea time (Wednesday evening Washington time). C-4 CINCPAC reports there is no evidence of a logistic build-up in northern Korea to support extensive operations, but CIA believes that such a build-up may have occurred over the past year and that northern forces have adequate logistic support to continue full-scale military operations for an extended period.

Brigadier General Church, USA, is assuming command of KMAC in Korea, but CINCPAC reports that CINCPAC's operating authority does not include command of southern Korean forces.

CIA estimates that northern forces have the intention and capability for continued advances south of the Han River; but believes that the advance will be slowed or halted, permitting southern units to regroup within two days in the vicinity of Suwon.

II. Survival Potential.

Prospects for maintaining cohesive southern Korean resistance are improving. The early release to southern Korean authorities of promises of US aid and involvement had an important and timely effect on southern Korean morale. Although the momentum of the

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north Korean advance does not appear to have been halted completely and the fall of Seoul and other important locations must have been blows to south Korean morale, operations by the US Air Force will prove a tremendous psychological boost to the south Korean Government, armed forces, and people. The latest official report indicated no sign of panic among the people. President Rhee, on learning of US plans, was reported as anxious to return to Seoul but was discouraged. Because Korean morale, particularly that of the armed forces, appears to have hinged upon the crucial factor of the enemy's exclusive possession of armor and preponderance of fighter aircraft, in terms of morale the tide should have turned, at least for the moment. The south Korean Army, if able to regroup, will now have a far greater will to fight. Chances of maintaining organized resistance are improving.

R. H. HILLENKOTTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central Intelligence

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24
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29 June 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Latest official reports (0700, 29 June Washington time -- 2100, 29 June Korea time) indicate that Kimp'o airfield has been re-taken by southern forces, who are also holding the road to Seoul south of the Han River. Southern forces are attempting to hold a line east of Seoul through Kungong-Chuncheon and Chongson. If this line cannot be held, southern forces plan to fall back to a line north of Taegu approximately along the 36th Parallel. Yesterday's air strikes by US planes against Han River bridges and northern forces north of the Han will assist in holding this line, but casualties of 50 percent and large-scale losses of equipment considerably reduce southern capabilities at this time. Morale of southern army ranks is good. US naval units have been in action against landing barges in the Kangnung area and no landings south of Sasechok have been confirmed. US naval aircraft are not in position to provide cover for the Sunan airstrip. Two other strips to the south, at Pusan and at Saishu (Cheju-do), are able to support F-80 operations.

The over-all situation is becoming clearer. Although the northern advance appears to have slowed, there is no indication yet that northern forces intend to halt at Seoul or retire. At this time, southern forces appear to have a slightly less than 50-50 chance of holding the present defense line.

II. Survival Potential.

According to the US Embassy, the Koreans are dispirited by the loss of Seoul and by failure of actual US military supplies to reach the troops. The same report estimates that a very strong effort on the part of the US Air Force and Navy will be needed in the next few days if the situation is to be stabilized. The south Korean Army,

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which has all of its forces committed, is reported to have lost about 50 percent of its combat effectives and police groups are now being used in combat. Field reports give the impression that the north Korean momentum has slowed down during the past twenty-four hours and, although no shortages in north Korean materiel are yet evident, the gradual attrition of tanks and planes should cause a deceleration of activities within a few days unless additional Soviet logistical help is received. If US aid can be effectively distributed in the next forty-eight hours, south Korean military morale will be improved. Meanwhile, order apparently prevails throughout south Korea and no reports of Communist guerrilla activity have been received.

R. H. MILLERKOTTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central Intelligence

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DM-25

30 June 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

The military situation has deteriorated considerably in the last 24 hours. Official reports indicate the 4th Division of the Northern Korean Army, formerly in reserve, has crossed the Han River in force over two undestroyed railroad bridges near Seoul. The Northern forces have resumed the advance. Southern Korean effectiveness is low and the morale of all Southern units is reported bad.

CINCPAC has been authorized to employ US Army forces to insure the retention of a port and air base in the Pusan-Chinhae area and to extend operations into Northern Korea against purely military targets. Under this authority, CINCPAC is moving one Regimental Combat Team to the Pusan area and air strikes are being made against selected military targets north of the 38th Parallel.

Although US air action has increased in tempo, Northern forces continue to evidence high morale. Their immediate objective is the capture of the important Suwon airstrip and the destruction of the 20,000 Southern forces remaining in that area. The Northern troops appear to have the capability of taking Suwon and cutting off further segments of Southern troops. There is no indication to date that the Northern forces intend to halt their advance or withdraw in the face of active US air and naval opposition.

II. Survival Potential.

Southern Korean morale appears to be deteriorating seriously. Civilians are very pessimistic, Government morale is poor, and the military are dispirited after a continuous series of defeats. It is reported that Southern Korean Military Police are having to compel troops to return to the front. A prominent Southern Korean

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who escaped from Seoul states that captured Southern Korean officials and military personnel are being characterized as "enemies of the people" and are usually killed when caught -- a maneuver apparently designed to eliminate any Southern Korean resistance behind Northern Korean lines. The Southern Korean Government is now ineffective, the Troops' will to fight is gravely reduced and the military outlook is poor.

R. N. HILLENKOTTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central Intelligence

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DM-25

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Copy 8 of 8

1 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Yesterday's reported breakthrough of northern forces across the Han River has been confirmed, Suwon has been overrun, and northern forces are unofficially reported 30 miles south of Seoul. ADCM and KMAC Headquarters are now in Taejon. The remnant southern forces in the Suwon area were reported to have made an orderly withdrawal. Information concerning the strength and location of both northern and southern forces south of the Han River is extremely meager.

USAF operations are being stepped up against targets in both northern and southern Korea. The US Seventh Fleet is scheduled to begin air strikes against northern Korea on 3 July. One battalion of the US 24th Division is being air-lifted to Pusan; the remainder of the Division will follow by air and water. The cessation of intermittent rain is expected during the next 24-hour period.

II. Survival Potential.

There are no confirmed reports concerning the impact on southern troop morale of yesterday's Washington announcement on the commitment of US ground forces in Korea. However, the press reports a very favorable reaction among southern Koreans generally. Indications of an orderly withdrawal of troops from the Suwon area point to a maintenance of discipline and morale among the remaining southern troops. The actual appearance of US ground forces in numbers should have a rallying effect on the tired and dispirited southern troops. The assumption of command of northern forces by General CHUNG Il Eon, the most competent Korean officer, should result in the most effective utilization of available southern forces.

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R. H. MILLERCHOFFER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central
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2 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

The situation in the main battle area (Seoul-Suwon) is obscure, but official reports state that the town of Suwon and the nearby airfield were still in Southern Korean hands at 0700 2 July (EDT). Contrary to earlier expectations, Southern Korean forces apparently maintained their position along the Han River yesterday, although they were not able to prevent all Northern crossings. Infantry, tanks, and trucks of the Northern forces now appear to have crossed the river, and a build-up for attacks in force toward Suwon and Inchon is believed to be in progress.

Detailed information regarding the present strength and disposition of Southern Korean ground forces is lacking. Elements of four divisions are believed to be in the Suwon area. The total of combat effectives in Southern Korean forces is estimated to be not more than 30,000. Northern Korean effectives, in contrast, are believed to total 100,000. The US 24th Division has been ordered to Korea. One provisional battalion, including mortar, bazooka, and recoilless-rifle teams, has advanced north of Pusan to undertake delaying action, but no contact with the enemy has yet been reported.

Northern Korean pilots took the initiative in attacks against US aircraft during 1 July, displaying determination and employing good air tactics. Anti-aircraft fire observed near the Kimpo airfield appeared to be radar-directed. Good weather predicted for today should permit increased USAF activity.

In the course of naval activities on 1 July, six Northern Korean motor torpedo boats, operating in the vicinity of the 38th Parallel on the east coast, were intercepted by US and UK naval units, and five were destroyed.

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II. Survival Potential.

USAF attacks appear to have slowed the momentum of the Northern advance and Southern Korean Army morale is reported to have improved as a result. Civilian refugees are streaming south from the area of fighting, however, and President Rhee has left the provisional capital at Taejon for an undisclosed destination in the south. Meanwhile, US Ambassador Muccio reports that, as a result of the arrival of US ground forces, there is no question of Southern Korean determination to carry on.

The Northern Korean regime has thus far made little or no use of such "political" weapons as sabotage and guerrilla activity behind Southern Korean lines. The possibility exists, however, that such steps will be taken. An additional danger has been seen in the possibility that the Communist regime may force Southern middle-of-the-roaders or officials who are in Northern Korean custody to make statements calling for Korean "unity" and an end to US and UN "interference." Reports that some Southern political figures, who remained voluntarily in Seoul, are "cooperating" with the Northern invaders, lend added weight to this possibility.

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(White House)

R. H. HILLENKOETTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central
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3 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Although press reports state that Northern columns have bypassed Suwon, there are no official reports of large-scale Northern operations during the past twenty-four hours. Official reports continue to indicate that the principal Northern activity is a build-up of forces south of the Han River, to the north and east of Suwon. Some progress appears to have been made in re-assembling and consolidating southern remnants south of the Han River and Southern units continue in contact with the enemy in the Seoul-Suwon area.

Northern Korean ground forces in the Seoul-Suwon area include the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 6th Divisions of the "People's Army." There has been no contact between Northern forces and the provisional Battalion of the US 24th Division north of Taejon. Additional elements of this Division are now moving north from Pusan.

Northern naval forces lost six motor trawlers in actions by the US 7th Fleet along the east coast. There are no reports yet available on the results of US and UK carrier strikes against targets north of the 38th Parallel. Elements of the 7th Fleet report a possible submarine contact off Chumunjin on the East coast.

Northern aircraft, reportedly including four jets, strafed Suwon airstrip and dropped surrender leaflets. Latest official reports indicate little Northern air activity in the past twenty-four hours, possibly as a result of unexpected poor weather, which will probably continue today. A Northern airforce POW has stated that Northern air forces do not have facilities for night operations.

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II. Survival Potential.

There appears to be relatively little change in the survival potential situation of the Republic of Korea since yesterday. Ambassador Muccio reports that the Yongwol Power Plant, which has been producing half of Southern Korea's electric power recently, shut down at noon on 2 July. Apparently the Republican Police responsible for plant security withdrew, whereupon the operating employees also left. Efforts are being made to return the plant to operation. Unofficial reports indicate that Southern Korean police are executing Communist suspects in Suwon and Taejon, in an effort both to eliminate a potential 5th column and to take revenge for reported northern executions in Seoul. There continues to be no confirmation of guerrilla activity in the south despite extensive northern claims.

R. H. HILLENKOETTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central Intelligence

✓ AD/OCB

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4 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

The focal point of ground action in Korea has shifted south and east from the Seoul-Suwon area to the Suwon-Osan area. Although press dispatches from Tokyo state that Suwon has fallen to northern Korean forces, official reports indicated that the town was still in Southern hands at 0300 4 July Washington time. Two northern columns, including tanks and artillery, are moving south and east of Seoul in enveloping movements that threaten not only Suwon but the entire area from Suwon south to Taejon.

The immediate objective of one Northern Korean column appears to be the town of Osan eight miles southeast of Suwon, and early contact with US ground forces moving toward this area is expected. Approximately two Southern Korean regiments remain in the Inchon-Suwon-Osan area. A second Northern column is approaching Wonju 70 miles to the east of Suwon, and troops of undetermined number are in a flanking position along the advance of this column. Undetermined numbers of Northern troops have been reported on the east coast about 40 miles north of Pohang.

Yesterday's air operations were restricted by poor weather which is expected to continue today. Two Northern planes were reported to have attacked an Australian naval unit off the east coast of Korea. FEC estimates that the Northern air force has enough trained pilots to man aircraft presently available.

A Northern naval officer captured by US forces states that there are no submarines in the "People's Navy" and claims that he had observed no Soviet submarines in Northern Korean waters recently. The Northern Korean "People's Navy" is believed to consist primarily of a small number of motor torpedo boats supplied by the USSR, together with several ex-US, ex-Japanese and Korean-built minesweepers.

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II. Political Stability.

Reports indicate that south-bound refugees are becoming a serious problem and the number of Southern Korean military stragglers is mounting. Republican officials are attempting to adopt refugee security measures in order to screen out potential saboteurs and guerrillas. Civilian morale in Tacjon continues to be good, primarily because of the northward passage of US ground troops through that area.

The first member of the South Korean government reported to be cooperating with the Northern invaders is Won Sei Hun, a National Assemblyman from the Seoul central district. Won is scheduled to preside over the trials of anti-Communist suspects and Republican officials beginning on 1 July in Seoul.

R. H. HILLENKOTTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central
Intelligence

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INTELLIGENCE

5 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Military activity on 4 July clarified the immediate objective of the Northern Korean forces. They are apparently attempting to hold the five disorganized Southern Korean Divisions in the Suwon-Ulsan area by pressure from the north, while simultaneously attempting to encircle these remnants by a major flanking move from the east. This immediate objective is being supported by minor Northern landings on the Korean east coast.

In advances reported up to 0700, 5 July, Washington time, Northern forces captured Suwon and the west coast part city of Incheon. The Northern advance to Suwon brought the "People's Army" into initial contact with elements of the US 24th division. The strength of the Northern force making contact is undetermined, but it reportedly includes 6 tanks. There is no firm information regarding the number of Southern Korean units still north of Suwon, but most of the remaining effectives are believed to be withdrawing from the Incheon-Han River line and may have been among the Southern forces which retreated yesterday below Suwon. Meanwhile, the 6th and 8th Southern Korean Divisions, formerly in the east, are moving west, apparently for use in the Suwon area.

No Northern Korean aircraft appeared over the front yesterday, possibly as a result of the US 7th Fleet carrier strikes in the Pyongyang area on 3-4 July and recent B-29 raids on the Kupo airfield, near Wonsan. Northern Korean airfields, aircraft, marshalling yards, bridges, rolling stock, and installations in the Pyongyang-Chinnampo area suffered moderate to heavy damage from the carrier strikes.

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II. Political Stability.

President Rhee is now in the southeastern port city of Pusan and 105 of the Republic's 210 Assemblymen have now succeeded in reporting to the Assembly Secretariat at Taejon. Meanwhile, General Song Ho Song, who was relieved of command of the Republican 2nd Division early in the fighting, is the second important South Korean to have collaborated with the North Koreans. He spoke over the Northern radio on 4 July to announce the formation of a "People's Volunteer Corps" to fight on the side of the Northern forces. Song called on Republican officers and men to join him in mopping up the "Rhee gang" and repelling the "American aggressors." General Song's speech foreshadows the Northern regime's future psychological and propaganda approach both to the Korean peoples and to the world at large. As Republican forces are eliminated and administration officials are captured, every effort will be made by the Northern regime to establish a "provisional" government for all Korea. As the Republican Government and Army shrinks, Communist charges that the Republic is a "puppet" regime, and that the US is trying to superimpose its will on a united Korean people, will carry more weight.

R. H. HILLINGBOERTH
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central Intelligence

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6 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Northern Korean forces, displaying resourcefulness and tactical skill in initial contact with advance elements of the US 24th Division in the Osan area, continue to push slowly but steadily southward. There is no indication that Northern forces are yet experiencing logistical problems sufficient to slow their present rate of advance of approximately ten miles a day.

In action against US elements, Northern ground forces lost 4 tanks, but the coordinated Northern attack, which used 30 tanks supported by infantry, forced a US withdrawal. Three Northern divisions simultaneously by-passed Osan, moving in the direction of Pyongtaek. The Southern 17th Regiment has withdrawn from Osan to Pyongtaek, while remnants of the 2nd, 3rd, and 5th Southern Divisions are being absorbed into the 1st and 7th Divisions.

In air operations, four Northern planes, reportedly bearing Republican markings, struck at Osan and knocked out telephone facilities. Poor weather forced US aircraft to rely on radar bombing of Northern Korean targets and prevented assessment of damage. There was no significant naval activity.

II. Political Stability.

A continuing will to resist among Republican officials is indicated by a resolution passed by the National Assembly Emergency Council on 4 July. The resolution heartily supported governmental actions mobilizing all the Republic's resources "to fight shoulder to shoulder with armed forces of those friendly nations" which have responded to the UN Security Council's decision to aid the Republic. The resolution was signed by

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Shin Ik Ri, Chairman of the National Assembly, and was the first indication that Shin, a widely respected individual, had succeeded in accompanying the Government in its move south.

Executions of prominent anti-Communists in Seoul continue to be reported. Meanwhile, Kim Kiu Sik, a leader of Korean "middle-of-the-road" parties who is widely known for his leadership of overseas resistance during the period of Japanese occupation, is apparently collaborating with the Northern Invaders.

R. H. HILLENKOETTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central Intelligence

✓ AD/OCO
DM-31

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7 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

The invading Northern forces are continuing their general advance along the whole width of the Korean peninsula. Enemy troops are pushing forward on every road and trail, their morale is extremely high, and they appear both skillful and resourceful in enveloping and eliminating road blocks. US actions to date have failed to blunt the edge of Northern morale and momentum. The skill demonstrated by Northern forces appears attributable to the presence of Korean combat veterans who served with the Chinese Communists in Manchuria, to the presence of Soviet advisors, and to the presence in the "People's Army" of significant numbers of Koreans who had served as officers and enlisted men on the Soviet western front during World War II. The weight of the Northern invaders' push makes it apparent that their present objective is the speedy defeat of all defending forces in the south.

Three Northern divisions have pushed forward approximately 15 miles from the Osan area, crossing a defended river, and have reached the outskirts of Chonan. The enemy advance in this area has forced US troops to withdraw to the Chonan area in order to avoid premature commitment in an unfavorable situation. The regrouping of the Southern Korean I Army Corps has been partially completed and this newly-organized Southern unit has moved to the area of Chinchon, 15 miles southeast of Ansong, where the Southern "Capital" Division is also located. On the east coast, 500 Northern troops are reported to have advanced 30 miles south of their former position at Ulchin.

A Northern Korean tank and truck column, stalled by a blown bridge, was hit by US aircraft. Northern forces lost 21 tanks in this and other actions. Results of US air strikes against the only Northern Korean oil refinery, at Wonsan, have not been determined. The Northern air force was not reported in action.

No results of yesterday's shelling of Chumunjin by a British naval unit were observed.

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II. Political Stability.

The US ambassador Muccio reports that previous estimates of the number of Republican National Assemblymen who were successful in escaping from Seoul should be revised upward; the whereabouts of 150 out of a total of 210 Assemblymen are now known. Among the "missing," 60, virtually all are the so-called "middle-of-the-road" members of the Republican Assembly. Because these Assemblymen are believed to have remained in Seoul voluntarily, they appear to offer the invading Northern regime its best opportunity for providing a "respectable" facade for any provisional government in the "liberated" areas.

R. H. HILLENKOETTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director Central Intelligence

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INTELLOFAX 4

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

8 July 1950

COPY

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

The location of the front lines changed little during the past twenty-four hours as the Northern Korean forces again paused to mass troops and armor in forward areas. The principal enemy concentration continued to be along the Pyongtaek-Ansong front, but a build-up of armor and troops in the Wonju area has been observed, possibly in preparation for a wide envelopment aimed at the main line of US and ROK communications in the Taejon area.

Continued pressure by the Northern Korean 1st and 3rd Divisions and the threat of envelopment forced elements of the US 24th Division to retire to Chonan after an initial penetration of approximately ten miles north of Chonan. The ROK I Corps was not in contact with the enemy, but the 8th ROK Division is reported to have re-occupied Chechon and elements of the ROK 6th Division were in contact with the enemy in the Chungju area.

Thirteen Northern Korean tanks were destroyed and ten were damaged by US air and ground forces. A bridge on the main east coast rail line north of Wonsan and a highway bridge in enemy occupied territory just south of the 38th Parallel on the east coast were destroyed by US air action. Enemy-occupied installations and roads on the east coast in the Yangyang-Samchok area suffered undetermined damage from bombardment by a combined US and British naval task group.

II. Political Stability.

Ambassador Muccio advises that he is suggesting to President Rhee that he remain in Pusan for the time being in view of the continuing fluidity of the situation north of Taejon. Unofficial reports indicate that persons in Seoul formerly employed by Americans,

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Families of Republican soldiers and large numbers of police have been killed by the Communists in the captured capital and their bodies displayed as a warning. There continues to be surprisingly little guerrilla activity in South Korean areas and only a few individual guerrillas had been apprehended as of 7 July. The Communist psychological campaign to demonstrate that the "liberation" is meeting with wide popular response was marked by radio Peiping's broadcast of a joint statement allegedly issued by a former Minister of Interior and a Vice Minister of Security under the US occupation calling for the unity and independence of the Korean people.

R. H. HILLENKOETTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central
Intelligence

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COPY

9 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Northern Korean forces in the Pyongtaek-Ansong area are continuing to exert heavy pressure in their advance beyond Chonan. Except for a Northern advance into Chungju, the front line further to the east has remained relatively stable.

The Northern advance in the Chonan area has trapped one battalion of the US 24th Division and has forced the retreat of another US battalion south to Kongju. The best remaining Southern force, the Capital Division, is heavily engaged in the Chinchon area, and late US press reports from the front claim that other Southern troops, in battle near Chungju, have inflicted heavy casualties on Northern forces. Meanwhile, a Southern regiment has moved north from Pusan and is in contact with the enemy at Yongdok on the east coast.

No air action by Northern forces was reported during the past 24 hours. Strikes by USAF planes knocked out 2 bridge spans at Samchok and hits were reported on a bridge at Yongdok. Naval bombardment by US and UK units has cut the east coast road south of Samchok.

II. Political Stability.

A Communist broadcast from Seoul has announced the membership of the "Seoul People's Committee," an organization which is undoubtedly destined to be the Northern regime's device for giving a legitimate facade to Northern decrees and demands for all-Korean "unity." With the exception of the Chairman, this committee is made up of Southern Koreans of varying degrees of prominence (most important is Kim Kiu Sik, formerly Chairman of the interim Legislative Assembly during the US military occupation), and also includes various public officials and Assemblymen whom the Republican Government had imprisoned as Communists.

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Although no new developments have been reported in the past 24 hours in the field of guerrilla activities, CINCFE (Commander-in-Chief Far East) believes that the pattern of Northern Korean concentrations along the east coast represents the possible assembly of guerrillas who have staged uprisings following Northern successes elsewhere. CINCFE also reports, without evaluation, that there are indications of popular unrest north of the 38th Parallel, particularly in the Hamhung area. The existence of organized anti-Communist groups in Hamhung had been reported periodically for more than a year before the outbreak of hostilities.

R. H. HILLENKOETTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central
Intelligence

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

10 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

COPY

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

The over-all location of front lines has changed little during the past 24 hours. The three Northern Korean divisions located in the Chonan-Chinchon area have been hampered in their continuing efforts to regroup and assemble infantry and armour for a further move toward Taejon both by logistical difficulties and by heavy US air strikes. The stiffening of Southern resistance in the Chinchon area indicates some progress in the reorganization of Southern Army units and a continuation of the will to fight among some Southern remnants.

Northern forces in the Chonan area maintained only light contact with the US 24th Division yesterday. Elements of the US infantry battalion which was cut off in Chonan yesterday appear to have fought their way back to the US-held position north of Kongju. In the Chinchon area, Northern troops met strong Southern resistance, and are now engaged in relieving two of their battalions reportedly surrounded by the Southern Capital and 2nd Divisions. Further to the east, Northern forces strengthened their hold on Chungju and continued probing south and southwest along the restricted east coast road net.

Good weather permitted extensive US air operations and Northern tanks, troops, trucks, and lines of communication suffered a heavy pounding. Official US reports claim 14 tanks destroyed and 13 damaged, more than 70 trucks destroyed, and damage to several bridges in Northern-held territory south of the 38th Parallel. Although Northern forces are still capable of offensive movement, these US air strikes have slowed preparations for renewed advance toward Taejon. Northern aircraft have again failed to appear and it is believed that the invaders' air strength is being conserved for future efforts.

The US naval patrol along the Korean east coast reports that the coastal road, previously cut by naval gunfire, has been repaired and is carrying light southbound traffic.

II. Political Stability

President Rhee, impatient with five days of waiting in Pusan, left for Taejon on 9 July but his train was intercepted at Taegu, where, in view of the fluid situation north of Taejon, he was requested to remain. US Ambassador Muccio will suggest that Rhee summon all Southern cabinet Ministers, except the Prime Minister

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and the Ministers of Transportation and Interior, to his new location. Meanwhile, two small-scale Southern victories in the past three days have reportedly aided morale in the Southern forces and the arrival of US tanks in Taejon has upped civilian morale there.

An "agrarian reform" program for the "liberated areas" of the South has been announced by Radio Pyongyang. Based on the principle of confiscation and free distribution of land among landless and poor peasants, the Northern program is calculated to appeal to poor Southern peasants. The Southerners' familiarity with the unfavorable aspects of Northern "land reform", however, will probably restrict the amount of genuine support gained by the Communist regime through this maneuver.

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INTELLOFAX 4

COPY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

11 July 1950

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Northern Korean forces have pushed forward slowly at several points along the front in the past 24 hours. The pattern of Northern concentration and movement indicated that the invaders are preparing for a two-pronged drive on Taejon. Enemy concentrations in the Chonan-Chinchon area are attempting first to outflank Chochiwon and ultimately to outflank Taejon itself from the West. Meanwhile, Northern forces in the Umsong-Chungju area are preparing to outflank Taejon from the east. In addition, Northern elements near Changju may attempt to advance through Hamchang to Kunchon, in order to cut communications between Taejon and Taegu.

In yesterday's ground operations, Northern troops advanced several miles south of Chonui before their progress was halted by US forces in position 8 miles northwest of Chochiwon. Northern forces continued to build up troop and armor in nearby Chnggan. The reorganized Southern First Corps, faced with strong pressure from the Umsong-Chichon area, withdrew south and east to new positions. On the east coast, Northern activity on an increasing scale was reported.

Invading forces were subjected to "round-the-clock" air attacks involving more than 300 sorties. FEAF claims 46 Northern tanks destroyed and 26 damaged in yesterday's operations. Although three YAK-15 jet fighters were reportedly observed over Chonan, the Northern air force generally remained inactive. No significant naval developments were reported.

II. Political Stability.

Ambassador Muccio met with President Rhee on 10 July, and found him "cheerful, composed and resolute". The President has agreed to remain in Taegu for the time being, but feels strongly that for morale reasons there should be no formal transfer of the Cabinet from Taejon to Taegu. Rhee has agreed, however, that the National Assembly Emergency Council should congregate in Taegu, and will issue a statement to the effect.

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Several pro-Northern guerrilla bands--numbering from 15 to 800--are reported to be in action in the general area northwest of the Southern city of Pohang. These bands are believed to be only partly armed. Although at present they pose no immediate threat to internal security, these bands will grow and become more effective in the event of further military successes by North Korean forces.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COPY

12 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Northern Korean forces continue to exert heavy pressure along the entire front, from Kongju to Tanyang. The weight of enemy artillery, tank, and infantry attacks forced all US and Southern units at the front to withdraw. The ability of the Northern forces to use two or three divisions against the four US battalions deployed in the Kongju-Chochiwon area probably will enable the invaders to continue their advance in this sector to the banks of the Kum River, nine miles north of Taejon.

In the Chongju-Umsong area, units of the Republic's First Corps were forced to make a planned withdrawal to defense positions along the Pogang River. Further to the east -- in the Chungju-Tanyang area -- elements of two Northern Divisions probed the positions of the Southern 6th and 8th Divisions astride the Hamchang corridor leading south to Kumchon.

Several Northern aircraft made an appearance over Southern Korea yesterday but failed to press attacks against US planes. US air operations were limited and a total of three Northern tanks were reportedly destroyed.

During the night of 11 July, a US naval plane made radar contact with approximately 50 ships close inshore near Songjin, north of the 38th Parallel on the east coast. Course and speed of the formation were not determined.

II. Political Stability.

There have been no significant developments affecting political stability in South Korea. Reports from Southern areas occupied by the Northern invaders, however, confirm earlier statements that recruiting for military service is in progress

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in Seoul. The Northerners have also instituted a compulsory labor draft, perhaps for emergency transport work in an attempt to replace conventional transportation facilities damaged by US air strikes. Food is reportedly becoming scarce in Seoul. The "People's Committee" in the former Republican capital began taking a strict census on 5 July, apparently in order to search out families of Southern military, police, and governmental personnel.

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TELLOFAX 4

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

13 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Northern Korean forces are continuing to press south of Chonan in the direction of Taejon and have forced the withdrawal of forward US units to positions south of the Kum River. Reports of simultaneous enemy movements west of Chonan indicate a possible attempt to flank the Kum River defense line from the West. Other Northern forces being held in reserve, are in a position to exploit any breakthrough to the east between the US right flank and the Southern First Corps left flank. There has been relatively little pressure on the First Corps in the past 24 hours, but enemy probing action against the Southern 6th and 8th Divisions in the Chungju-Tanyang area continues to threaten the corridor leading to Kumchon. On the east coast, no substantial changes have been reported.

The Northern air force has increased its activities. One B-29 and one US observation plane were shot down yesterday and Northern fighters, utilizing cloud cover, made several unsuccessful attacks on US fighters engaged in strafing missions.

Investigation by US surface units proved yesterday's reported fifty ships near Songjin to be fishing craft. Meanwhile, a US Navy demolition squad landed without opposition on the east coast near Songjin and laid explosives in a 300-foot railway tunnel on the single line directly connecting Northern Korea with the USSR.

II. Other Developments.

Reports from ECA observers indicate that no food shortages exist in areas which are presently under Southern control, and none are anticipated in the near future. This condition appears to be in part

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a result of the demolition of the Han River bridges during the early days of the invasion, a move which effectively prevented a mass exodus to the south and has minimized the refugee problem. ECA also reports that, although the Republican Government succeeded in removing its gold reserve of one and one-half tons before the capture of Seoul, both note reserves and currency printing-plates fell into the invaders' hands.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

14 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Enemy action in the period following the withdrawal of US forces south of the Kum River has been restricted to probing of the US-held river line and reorganization of major Northern units in the rear. Northern pressure is now being increased against the Southern First Corps in the Chongju area, however, and the early fall of that key defense center is anticipated. Further to the east, invading forces continue to advance slowly through difficult terrain toward the open corridors leading to Kumchon and Taegu.

In the Chochiwon-Kongju area the Northern 4th and 6th Divisions have relieved the 1st and 3d Divisions. After a brief period of reorganization, the troops which have been relieved will probably join the enemy 2d Division in forcing a breakthrough of the Southern First Corps in the vicinity of Chongju, thereby flanking both US defensive positions south of the Kum River and the city of Taejon. An enemy crossing of the Pogang River has already seriously threatened the First Corps position in Chongju. In the center, the Northern 15th Division has moved half way down the narrow pass leading from Chungju to Hamchang where the valley flattens out into a natural corridor leading to Kumchon. Farther to the east, the invaders have advanced several miles below Tanyang, capturing Funggi and threatening the communication center of Yongju.

No reports of Northern Korean air or naval activities have been received in the past 24 hours. USAF and Australian air strikes during the period knocked out 9 enemy tanks and more than 50 vehicles, while continuing to harrass lines of communication. Meanwhile, US fleet units along the Korean east coast bombarded roads, troop concentrations, railway yards and oil tanks in enemy-held territory south of the 38th Parallel. Results generally could not be determined. No report has been received on the result of the mining of the railroad tunnel south of Songjin.

II. Other Developments

The Foreign Office of the Republic of Korea has formally notified diplomatic missions and UNCKK representatives in Taejon that the Government is moving its

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provisional capital to Taegu, 60 miles northwest of the port of Pusan. US Embassy personnel are also moving to Taegu.

Dr. Chough Pyungok, former UN delegate who is a leader of the Southern "Citizens Emergency Committee," has just returned to Taejon from a trip through four Republican provinces, in which he spoke to audiences numbering as many as 10,000. Chough reports that the people remain calm and strong in their support of the Republic of Korea, and expresses the hope that Taejon can be held, since, in Chough's opinion, the city's loss would probably be followed by loss of Korea's richest rice-producing district.

Meanwhile, Northern propaganda is taking the line that the US helped Chiang Kai-shek in China, but withdrew when Communist strength became apparent. This propaganda line claims that the US will similarly withdraw its assistance from the Southerners when the Northern invaders have pushed further south.

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INTELLOFAX 4

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

15 July 1950

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MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Northern Korean forces are pressing the offensive on all fronts, from Kongju on the Kum River to the area of Tanyang, 90 miles to the east. The North Koreans have penetrated US defenses south of the Kum River near Kongju and forced Southern Korean troops to make further withdrawals.

After a brief reconnaissance of sites suitable for a river crossing and two unsuccessful attempts at a crossing during daylight hours, the enemy 4th Division forded the Kum below Kongju in undetermined strength under cover of darkness last night and overran a US artillery battalion. US forces in this immediate area are withdrawing in the direction of Taejon. Other US units continue to hold the Kum River line east of Kongju. Further to the east, the enemy 2nd division penetrated south of Chongju, forcing a general withdrawal of the Southern First Corps and increasing the threat of an encirclement of Taejon.

Northern forces have repaired the airstrip at Kimpo, near Seoul. Two out of seven camouflaged YAK fighters parked on the field were reportedly destroyed by US strafing attacks. Two enemy fighters attacked a flight of four B-26 bombers but were driven off by US fighters after severely damaging one of the bombers.

II. Other Developments.

Northern Korean propaganda broadcasts continue to present speeches obtained from US prisoners and criticizing US action in Korea. The US prisoners are unquestionably under coercion; typical quote. . . "it is the belief of this group of prisoners that. . . the Korean people (should) be permitted to evolve their own international problems." Other Northern broadcasts strongly deny that US prisoners have been murdered and claim that the "People's Republic" is treating captured Americans in accordance with international law.

Meanwhile, there is some indication that Pyongyang, the Northern Korean regime's capital city, may become the seat of a government of the "Japanese People's Provisional Republic" staffed by Japanese Communists. Seven Central Committeemen of the Japan Communist Party, who were recently "purged" by SCAP, have escaped police surveillance and are reported to have departed for Pyongyang to provide a nucleus for this "Provisional Republic."

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

17 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Northern Korean infantry has crossed the Kum river in force and despite heavy losses has approached the outskirts of Taejon from the west. Additionally, a heavy infiltration of enemy troops on the US right flank along the Taejon front threatens to drive a salient between US troops and the Southern First Corps in the Munui area. Further to the east, Southern troops repulsed an enemy attack north of Hamchang but were driven from Yongju, at the head of the corridor which leads through Andong to Taegu.

Five to seven enemy fighters were sighted by US bombers in the air over Seoul yesterday but the enemy made no attempts to attack. US low-level air attacks destroyed 13 and damaged 15 enemy tanks in the past 24 hours and three bridges were also reported destroyed.

A US naval air patrol reports that the 50-ship fishing fleet first sighted on 12 July is still at sea and is now some 70 miles south of its first observed position. This would place the Northern fishing fleet near the 38th Parallel.

II. Other Developments.

President Rhee has assigned to General MacArthur, in his capacity as commander of UN forces, command authority over all South Korean land, sea and air forces for the duration of hostilities, with the privilege of delegating such authority, or exercising it personally. Meanwhile, Rhee has removed Home Minister Paek, who has proved himself incompetent and appointed Dr. Chough Pyungok, former Chief of National Police under the US Occupation who has a reputation for being both tough and politically ambitious.

US Ambassador Muccio reports that some 50,000 well-organized and well-led police are available in South Korea not only to assist US troops by spotting infiltrating Northerners in combat areas but also to fight as small combat units. The police are already engaged in spotting work behind the front. Muccio has discussed the employment of South Korean police with senior US Army personnel in the field and it has been agreed that police units should be armed with grenades and machine guns both to offset any guerrilla superiority in weapons, and to bolster police self-confidence.

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TELEFAX 4

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

18 July 1950

COPY

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Enemy pressure against the US-held front at Taejon and against South Korean positions on the US right flank in the Chongju-Koesan area was eased during the past 24 hours. To the east, North Korean units threatened Mungyong, while, in the Tanyang-Yongju area further to the east, sizeable enemy forces appear to have moved south through the mountain passes and are nearing the Naktong valley corridor which leads to Taegu.

The North Korean 4th Division has relaxed its pressure on US units in the Taejon area, while the experienced but battle-weary enemy 1st Division, which has not been recently reported in contact, may be moving laterally to the east. Although US forces apparently still hold the deserted city of Taejon, the advanced headquarters of the US 24th Division has moved back about 22 miles to Yongdong. The enemy still is capable of further advances past Taejon along the rail line toward Yongdong and Kumchon, however. To the east, the Southern First Corps is now in contact with the enemy 2nd and 3rd Divisions. Although pressure was also light in this sector yesterday, the appearance of the North Korean 3rd Division in this area indicates preparations for a major push through the Southern-held position in the Chongju-Koesan area. Meanwhile, the enemy 15th Division is threatening Mungyong at the head of the north-south corridor leading to Kumchon. Despite reported Southern successes in the Yechon area, it appears that substantial elements of the enemy 5th Division have penetrated the mountain passes on the road south of Yanyang and are infiltrating the approaches to the Naktong valley in the Yongju-Yechon area. Enemy ground forces which are moving unopposed down the west coast have reached Changhang, on the north bank of the Kum River opposite the seaport of Kunsan, and South Korean naval units in the vicinity of Changhang have withdrawn to Kunsan.

Advance elements of the US 1st Cavalry Division have landed to reinforce the US-held harbor of Pohang on the Korean east coast.

US planes shot down two Yak-9s in the Kongju area, and claimed destruction of 10 enemy tanks, 69 trucks, two locomotives, and one bridge.

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US naval forces continued harassing bombardment of east coast roads and bridges.

II. Other Developments

Ambassador Muccio reports that virtually all South Korean civilians, as well as Southern government officials and police, evacuated Taejon on 16 July. The provincial government, which had its seat in the threatened city, has moved to Chonju, some 40 miles to the south. Meanwhile, ECA reports that the first portion of an emergency printing of South Korean currency -- following the loss of notes and plates during the fall of Seoul -- has arrived in Korea from Japan.

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INTELLOFAX 4

421618

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

19 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

COPY

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Although the lull in combat operations in the Taejon area has continued during the past 24 hours, there has been considerable enemy movement in both the undefended west coast sector and the vital corridors in the center of the Korean peninsula which lead south to the main rail line at Kunchon and Taegu. Meanwhile, the US 1st Cavalry Division successfully completed its landing at Pohang on the east coast, while carrier aircraft from the landing support force struck hard at airfields and installations north of the 38th Parallel.

Enemy activity in the Taejon area, where the US 24th Division and the Southern First Corps are fighting delaying actions, has been restricted to minor infiltration and redeployment. Although one northern company has been reported in Taejon, there is no indication that the city has fallen. Meanwhile, units of the enemy 4th Division are reported in occupation of several towns west of Taejon. Although this movement may precede an enemy attempt to outflank Taejon from the west and south, this rich southwestern area is virtually undefended and these small enemy forces may instead continue to move south in an attempt to secure rich rice country between Iri and the port of Mokpo.

In the central sector, elements of the Northern 5th and 15th Divisions pushed further south toward Hamchang and Andong, while Yechon is believed to have fallen to the enemy 5th Division. US aerial observers report a continuing buildup of enemy tanks, trucks, and troops in the rear of this sector and other major enemy elements are probably moving into position to support the drive south. Meanwhile, on the east coast, Southern troops attacked and forced an enemy withdrawal north of Yongdok.

US carrier aircraft, striking east coast targets north of the 38th Parallel, destroyed 14 and damaged 13 enemy aircraft on the ground, damaged power stations, and destroyed one railroad bridge, a coal train, and five oil storage tanks at Wonsan. Other US aircraft attacked enemy Yak 9s engaged in strafing in southern Korea, destroying three and damaging one.

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II. Other Developments

Past failure of the Republic of Korea to win the support of its restless student class may lie behind reports that over 50% of Seoul's students are actively aiding the Communist invaders, with many voluntarily enlisting in the Northern Army. Apparently attracted by the glamor of a winning army, the morale of these recruits may suffer rapidly if the going gets tough. Among other elements of Seoul's population, the working class generally supports the Northern Koreans, while merchants are neutral and the intelligentsia continue to be pro-Southern. A former Seoul policeman reports that North Korean troops and police are rather inconspicuous in Seoul. Commercially, the city is nearly "dead"; stores are closed except for two department stores and some greengrocers. The streets, however, are crowded, especially with youths engaging in Communist demonstrations.

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20 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Northern Korean tank-infantry teams are continuing the frontal attack on Taejon but official reports indicate that the city is still held by US troops. The area held by the Southern First Corps to the east of the US position at Taejon has remained relatively quiet, but further to the east the invaders are continuing to press down the central corridors leading to Kunchon and Taegu and brisk action is taking place on the east coast in the vicinity of Yongdok. A second carrier strike on targets in Northern Korea has inflicted additional heavy losses on enemy aircraft caught on the ground.

Enemy forces of at least regimental strength, accompanied by tanks and artillery, have crossed the Kum river west of Taejon and are now in the Iri-Nonsan area, but there is yet no indication whether this force will move southward toward Kwangju and the seaport of Mokpo or swing east to flank Taejon. Northern forces have resumed the attack on Taejon, employing tanks and artillery against US defensive positions with official reports indicating considerable success for US anti-tank weapons in this engagement. There is little action along the right flank of the US position at Taejon where the Southern First Corps faces the Northern 2nd and 3d Divisions and it is possible that the 3d Division is now assisting the enemy 4th Division at Taejon. Further to the east, enemy possession of Yechon at the head of the vital corridor leading to Kunchon on the main rail line has been confirmed. Although the enemy was reported driven back north of Yongdok on the east coast yesterday, a later enemy tank, infantry and artillery attack has reportedly captured the town.

Although poor weather hampered FMAF air operations, during the past 24 hours, the second successive strike on northern Korean targets was made by carrier aircraft. Carrier claims include eighteen aircraft destroyed and two damaged on the ground, two gunboats strafed and damaged, five tank-cars burned, four locomotives destroyed, and a large chemical plant set on fire. The attacking aircraft found the Wonsam oil refinery still burning from the previous day's raid.

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II. Other Developments.

The United Nations Commission on Korea (UNCOK), currently located in the southern port city of Pusan, has decided that under present circumstances the activities of UNCOK observers should be expanded. The Commission agreed that the number of observers should be increased, and that their expanded duties should include the investigation of atrocity stories to prepare factual reports to the UN. Other functions include gathering information from refugees and other sources to provide social and political guidance for the future and duties relating to "the eventual withdrawal" of the invading forces.

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INTELLOFAX 4

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

COPY

21 July 1950

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Northern Korean forces have occupied Taejon following a sustained infantry attack heavily supported by tanks and artillery. Enemy troops moving unopposed south and west of Taejon have been observed below Chonju on the road to Namwon and appear to be driving for the southern coast at Yosu and Mokpo. There was no activity on the southern Korean-held right flank of the US position near Taejon, but Northern forces suffered local reverses both in the central corridor area and on the east coast.

The Third Northern Korean Division, possibly assisted by elements of the Fourth Division, has forced US troops to withdraw from Taejon. The enemy used a continuous coordinated attack, heavily supported by tanks and artillery, accompanied by infiltrations along the US line of communication into Taejon. Major elements of the Northern Fourth Division apparently have moved west and south of Taejon, and large numbers of enemy troops have been sighted along the road and rail net running south from Iri through Chonju to Namwon and from Iri to Chongup. The objective of these troops is apparently to secure the entire southwest area, including the ports of Mokpo and Yosu. Consolidation in this area would permit a movement toward Pusan along the southern coast roads.

In the central sector, both the Fifth and Fifteenth Northern Divisions suffered local reverses in actions against Southern units. Yechon was recaptured by the Southern Capital Division and Northern elements were thrown back in the vicinity of Punggi by the Southern Eighth Division. On the east coast, Southern Korean units, assisted by US and UK naval bombardments, drove the enemy out of Yongdok and advanced a short distance to the north.

Despite the reported destruction of large numbers of Northern air craft on the ground by carrier air strikes this week, Northern planes appeared aggressively over southern Korea yesterday. A formation of B-29s was attacked over Seoul, two Yaks were destroyed over Taejon after attacking US-80s, eight Yaks were sighted over Taejon, and two Yaks were observed over Poun. A sighting was also made of four planes, possibly of the TU-2 type (light bombers).

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US and UK naval units, in addition to supporting the southern Korean forces at Yongdok, bombarded troops, roads, and military installations along the east coast from Yongdok north to Kangnung.

II. Other Developments.

No significant reports received during the last 24 hours.

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INTELLOFAX 4

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COPY

22 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

The principal change in the front yesterday occurred in the western sector where the Southern First Corps, located northeast of Taejon, withdrew five to ten miles along the Taejon-Yongdong axis. In the central sector, the enemy appeared to be continuing a build-up of supplies. On the east coast, Southern troops improved their position in Yongdok.

The Fourth North Korean Division, moving south from the Taejon area into rice-lands of southwest Korea, has met some opposition from unidentified Southern forces which are reported holding Chongup. These friendly troops are probably hastily assembled reserves based on the reserve district headquarters at Kwangju. The enemy Third Division has pushed about seven miles from Taejon toward Yongdong. Elements of the US First Cavalry Division are now moving forward to relieve the US Twenty-Fourth Infantry Division southeast of Taejon. On the right flank, the enemy Second Division resumed the offensive and forced the Southern First Corps to withdraw five to ten miles. The First Corps is to be relieved in this sector by the US Twenty-Fifth Division. Further to the east, elements of the enemy Fifteenth Division attacked the South Korean Sixth Division in the vicinity of Ochon, about seven miles north of the key corridor town of Hamchang. On the east coast, a South Korean force has secured its position north of Yongdok.

The enemy airforce was not in action yesterday, and US and allied air operations were again limited by poor weather. Allied carrier aircraft have made another strike on North Korea, this time from the Yellow Sea, but reports of results have not been received.

II. Other Developments.

No significant reports in the past 24 hours.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

24 July 1950

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MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

North Korean forces appear to be building up additional strength while moving forward slowly in all sectors except in southwestern Korea, where unopposed Northern troops are sweeping rapidly toward Mokpo and Yosu. Preliminary reports indicate the presence of at least two new enemy divisions in combat, the Seventh and Eighth Infantry Divisions. It has not yet been established whether these units include Korean-Manchurian veterans of the CCF or are made up principally of recent, inexperienced draftees from North Korea and enemy-occupied sections of South Korea.

The enemy is driving rapidly over the undefended road net of southwestern Korea, and the boldness of the movement indicates that more than one division may be involved. An enemy force in regimental strength has occupied Kwangju, the communications center of the southwest. The invaders appear to have the capability of overrunning the entire southwest and moving from there through Chinan to flank Taegu, and there along the southern coast road toward Pusan. In the western sector, where the enemy has reportedly massed 10,000 troops west of Taejon, the North Koreans advanced approximately seventeen miles beyond Taejon toward Yongdong. Enemy pressure against the US 25th Division sector to the east of Taejon is increasing, and further east the enemy Fifteenth Division has made small advances while troop and supply build-ups continue. On the east coast, the enemy has recaptured Yongdok and appears to have at least two regiments in this area threatening the US position at Pohang.

Planes of the US Seventh Fleet hit military targets in the Seoul-Kaesong area during the past 24 hours, and clearing weather permitted land-based aircraft to give maximum support to UN ground forces yesterday.

II. Other Developments.

Ambassador Muccio suggests that the thousands of refugees crowded into the remaining South Korean territory be kept hopeful and confident of the future,

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AUTH: HR 70-2
DATE: 05 Mar 81 REVIEWER: 032931

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by maintaining the normal economy and preparing to improve post-hostility living standards insofar as practicable without interfering with the military effort. Among the projects suggested are the establishment of technical training institutes for agriculture, fisheries and mechanical fields.

A Kuomintang news agency reports without confirmation that Shin Ik Hi, Chairman of the South Korean National Assembly, has declared that the cause of the United Nations will be lost in Korea if South Korean forces are not allowed to drive across the 38th Parallel to unify Korea. Shin is also credited with stating that the National Assembly, which is scheduled to hold its first post-invasion session on Thursday, will try to bring this matter to the attention of the nations supporting South Korea. The news agency reports that of 210 official Assembly members, 158 evacuated Seoul and are available for the session, about ten defected, and the remaining 42 cannot be located. The South Korean Government reportedly announced on 23 July the issuance of new bank notes to prevent the North Koreans from flooding Southern-held territory with old-type currency made from plates left in Seoul where the Southern Government hurriedly left the city.

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INTELLOPK 4

25 July 1950

COPY

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. The Military Situation.

All sectors of the Korean battle front are now active as North Korean forces continue to pour in all troops, artillery and tanks available to them in the combat zone. The enemy clearly is making a maximum effort to encircle, cut-off, and drive into the sea all UN forces in Korea before additional reinforcements arrive to overcome present North Korean numerical superiority.

The enemy drive through southwestern Korea continues unopposed and unabated and an enemy force estimated to be a regiment has entered the port city of Mokpo. Enemy troops in division strength are reported in Namwon in position to move south to the coastal road leading to Pusan or through the mountain roads to Taegu. In the Taejon-Yongdong sector, latest official reports describe heavy movements of enemy troops and tanks; late press reports indicate that a heavy northern attack has penetrated US lines in the vicinity of Yongdong. An attack in force by the enemy Second Division has been repulsed by the US Twenty-Fifth Division in the vicinity of Chongean on the right flank of the US 1st Cavalry positions at Yongdong. In the central sector, the enemy Fifteenth Division suffered local reverses north of Hamchang in an encounter with the South Korean Capital Division but further to the east enemy troops forced southern units to withdraw south of Yongju. Two new enemy infantry divisions, the Seventh and Eighth, have now been identified in the central sector. It also appears that the experienced enemy First Division has shifted east to this sector, and preparations for a major push south toward Taegu and Kumchon may have been completed. Enemy troops south of Yongdok on the east coast were pushed back one mile by South Korean-US operations.

Aircraft of the Seventh Fleet are striking at enemy troops in southwestern Korea but results have not been received.

II. Other Developments.

The United Nations Command, with General Headquarters in Tokyo, was officially established on Monday with General MacArthur as Commander-in-Chief.

Seoul is apparently suffering from inflation and a rice shortage; refugees report that the price of rice there has risen to 7 times that in Pusan and 11 times that in Taegu. Refugees also report that on the third day of the Northern occupation, authorities made a house-to-house search and confiscated all rice; since then the people in Seoul have been subsisting without rice.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COPY

26 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

North Korean forces, employing an estimated nine divisions across a broad front, are now within 75 airline miles of Pusan along the southern coast road, 105 airline miles from Pusan along the Yongdong-Taegu-Pusan main rail line, and 90 airline miles above Pusan along the east coast. Despite heavy losses in frontal attacks and disrupted and extended lines of communication, the enemy maintains heavy pressure along the entire front, and still outnumbers the three US Divisions and four South Korean Divisions.

The advance of the enemy Fourth Division in the southwest, probably assisted by the enemy Sixth Division, has secured practically all of that area, and advanced elements have moved east to Hadong on the coast road to Pusan. In the western sector the enemy has continued heavy attacks southeast of Yongdong and forced elements of the US First Cavalry to withdraw to new positions three miles east and south of Yongdong. On the right flank of the US First Cavalry Division, the northern Second Division forced the US Twenty-Fifth Division to withdraw several miles. In the central sector there have been only slight changes in the front lines. A northern build-up continues in the Tayang-Punggi-Yongju area, however, and the appearance in this area of fresh enemy troops - the First, Seventh, and Eighth Divisions - against the unrested South Korean divisions increases the immediate possibility of a major enemy effort to break through to Taegu. On the east coast enemy strength has been increased in the Yongdok area by the appearance there of the Fifth Division, and additional enemy troops in undetermined strength are moving south along the east coast road below Samchok.

US and British fleet units conducted a carrier air strike against southwestern Korea Tuesday, but in 110 sorties over the Kunsan-Mokpo-Kwangju area the pilots could find no enemy troop concentrations or movements. It is apparent that the enemy observes strict camouflage discipline and moves on the roads by night whenever possible.

II. Other Developments.

No significant developments reported during the last twenty-four hours.

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No. 9

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INTELLOFAX 4

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

27 July 1950

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MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Although no major changes have occurred in the defense line during the past 24 hours, North Koreans are building up pressure in all sectors, thus increasing the possibility that the invaders are regrouping and reorganizing for another attack.

In the south, the North Korean Fourth Division was forced back two miles by attacking US forces one mile east of Hadong. An estimated 1200 North Korean troops supported by artillery was reported in the west sector; these troops may be the North Korean Sixth Division advancing from Shinan. Motorized reconnaissance by the US First Cavalry to Chinju and Namon along the left flank failed to contact the enemy. Enemy envelopment isolated one company of US troops in the area southwest of Yongdong; a second attack by the enemy succeeded in making a minor penetration into southern-held territory near Kidae. On the eastern sector, the Seventh North Korean Division offensive, supported by tanks in the area South of Yongju, was repulsed. Reports indicate the possibility of a new Ninth North Korean Division in the area northwest of Tanyang.

A US reconnaissance pilot reported sighting a four-engined plane, possibly a PE-8; one enemy aircraft of unknown type attacked the US Fifth Air Force Advance base at Taegu and dropped one bomb.

II. Other Developments.

North Korean propaganda, which is supervised by Soviet advisors, is citing Stalin's reply to Nehru's letter on the Korean issue as further evidence of the Soviet foreign policy of defending the peace and security of the world. Korean Communist broadcasts state that their regime would welcome a "peaceful settlement", but stress the point made by Stalin that the door to such a peaceful settlement will open only after delegates of the Chinese People's Republic are seated in the UN and the Council hears "representatives" of the Korean people.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COPY

28 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Enemy forces have continued heavy pressure in all sectors, and have made advances northeast of Hodang in the southern area and in the vicinity of Ongchon in the east sector. North Korean forces have infiltrated in the areas of Kwan and Pong-Hwang. The enemy is apparently trying to envelope the UN forces in the west and south coastal areas and in the east sector. Meanwhile, indications increase that substantial reserves are available to the North Koreans.

The Fourth North Korean Division has advanced four miles northeast of Hadong towards Chinju, in the southern area, after repulsing an attack by elements of the US Twenty-Fourth Infantry Division, which has withdrawn to the vicinity of Chinju. Enemy forces, estimated to be a battalion, have occupied the southern port of Yosu.

Along the Taejon-Kumchon axis in the west sector, the Second and Third North Korean Divisions have made slight gains near Kwangan. In the same sector, an estimated 200 enemy troops have infiltrated into the area near Kwan.

A second Northern penetration occurred in the east sector two miles east of Pong-Hwang Mountain, where three enemy tanks and an unknown number of troops have been reported, probably elements of the Fifteenth North Korean Division. Along the front north of Hamchang, UN forces have prevented advances against enemy pressure. An attack by a regiment of the Seventh North Korean Division, however, has forced the Eighth ROK Division to withdraw in the vicinity of Ongchon.

South of Yongdok, on the east coast, an enemy counterattack against South Korean and US forces has made no advance.

In addition to the reported, but still unconfirmed, existence of a Ninth North Korean Division in the Chungju-Mungyeong area, a junior officer prisoner of war states that five additional northern divisions may have been formed. Additional reserves may be available from the North Korean Border Constabulary, and unconfirmed reports indicate that the Third Border Constabulary Brigade is in reserve in Ongjin. Recruits, estimated to number 2500, were reportedly sent to the combat areas after three days' training near Seoul. Another report states that the North Koreans are planning to conscript 50,000 unmarried women in the occupied areas of South Korea for duty with the North Korean forces.

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II. Other Developments.

The South Korean National Assembly has convened officially for the first time since leaving Seoul. Approximately 132 of the 210 members met in Taegu and heard President Rhee and Assembly Speaker Shin declare their confidence not only in a UN victory and return of the government to Seoul, but also in the abolishment of the 38th Parallel and the complete unification of the fatherland. At the same time, Radio Pyongyang broadcast an appeal allegedly adopted by 48 members of National Assembly in occupied Seoul asking the Assemblymen in Taegu to withdraw their support of Rhee and come over to the side of the "people".

Foreign correspondents of the Communist press of France, England, and China are present in North Korea and are inspecting the "character" of US bombing of the North. They report that the Americans are bombing from "above the clouds" and clearly engaging in "terror bombing designed to kill the peaceful inhabitants". The correspondents are obviously in Korea to provide material to support the general Communist line that the US is the aggressor against Asiatic peoples.

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INTELLOFAX 4

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29 July 1950

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MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military SituationSummary

There have been no substantial changes in the tactical situation in the past twenty-four hours. Principal activity has been in the key western sector where North Korean troops are exerting heavy pressure against the US First Cavalry and Twenty-Fifth Infantry Divisions.

Sector Reports

In the southwestern sector, enemy troops are moving eastward toward contact with advanced US positions. Two enemy regiments are reported on the coastal road between Sunchon and Hadong, and advance elements of these troops are crossing the Sonjin River in the vicinity of Hadong, probably with the objective of moving towards US-held Chinju. Further to the north in this sector enemy troops are moving east to gain positions on the road running north from Kochang to Kumchon, present headquarters of the First Cavalry Division on the main rail line from Kumchon to Pusan.

The enemy Second and Third Divisions are continuing their build-up in the western sector, and are exerting heavy pressure on US defensive positions. The front line has remained practically unchanged, but enemy elements appear to have penetrated US lines between the First Cavalry and the Twenty-Fifth Division.

Positions are generally stabilized in the eastern sector where South Korean troops hold the line. There are reports that the Thirteenth Korean Division has appeared in this area, and the concentration of enemy troops indicates the possibility of a major push towards Hamchang in the direction of Kumchon and Taegu.

An attack by UN forces toward Yongdok on the east coast met stiff enemy resistance, and no change in the location of the front line one mile south of Yongdok has been reported.

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US naval units continued to support ground forces in the Yongdok area by off-shore bombardment of enemy concentrations, and other units launched four carrier air strikes, hitting enemy lines of communication and troop concentrations in the southwest and west sectors.

II. Other Developments

The United Nations Commission on Korea (UNCOK) estimates that from 750,000 to 1,000,000 refugees are now added to the 6,000,000 persons normally occupying the area still under ROK control. According to UNCOK, water supplies are deficient and unreliable, sanitation extremely poor, and congested living conditions most serious. Although this congestion and continued military reverses are unquestionably having a deleterious effect on the morale of the South Koreans, they are continuing to support the government.

UNCOK is making preparations to institute a UN-sponsored and administered relief program. The first phase will be limited to providing medical supplies for civilian hospital needs and to controlling epidemics. An emergency program to provide essential food and clothing will follow. South Korean provincial organizations, assisted by field teams of UN personnel, will administer the program, and it is planned to have ECA act as agents of the UN for movement of UN-contributed supplies.

INTELLOFAX 4

31 July 1950

COPY

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

Enemy activity has been confined to minor attacks, with heaviest pressures near Chinju in the south and Hamchang in the west sector. (Latest press reports state that both Chinju and Hamchang have fallen to the enemy.) Movement of troops and materials from rear areas to front lines has been considerable.

Sector Reports

In the south, an undetermined number of North Korean troops attacked elements of the US Nineteenth Regiment near Chinju. Numerous enemy troops and vehicles were observed in the vicinity of Hadong.

In the lower west sector, elements of a North Korean Division attacked the US Thirty-Fourth Regiment with unknown results.

On the main western sector, the US First Cavalry Division was subjected to harassing mortar fire and ten miles west of Sangju an armoured attack was launched against the US Twenty-Fifth Division.

In the east sector near Andong, elements of the Eighth ROK Division were attacked by approximately 800 troops of the Seventh North Korean Division, in what appeared to be another attempt at encirclement.

Below Yongdok, on the east coast, the Third ROK Division succeeded in repulsing the left flank of the opposing Fifth Korean Division.

Units of the Seventh Fleet have continued bombardment and carrier air strikes, and have also been engaged in attempts to protect the south flank of UN forces in the Chinju area.

II. Other Development.

According to Radio Pyongyang, Kim IL Sung, Communist Chief of North Korea, told a French correspondent of "L'Humanite" that although US "intervention" has protracted the war, the Korean people are firmly determined to fight until they "take over the whole country" by themselves. Kim made no mention of foreign support, except to say that the Army is guaranteed enough weapons and ammunition for victory. He ascribed the certainty of a North Korean victory to "unity" and "determination" of the Korean peoples, and to the lack of a whole hearted effort by American citizens and soldiers who do not

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desire "this kind of war."

In South Korea the appearance of seven cases of smallpox in Pusan is a warning of the dangerous public health condition developing as refugees crowd the southeast section of Korea and force a breakdown of the inadequate Korean public health facilities. Ambassador Muccio believes that the menace of epidemics provides an excellent opportunity to solicit international participation in non-military activities in Korea.

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INTELLOPAX 4

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

1 August 1950

COPY

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Summary

Although heavy enemy pressure continued on all fronts, the only substantial enemy advances were in the southern area in the vicinity of Chinju. Enemy forces are reported to have occupied Namhae Island off the southern coast. It is estimated that heaviest North Korean pressure will continue to be in the Chinju area.

Sector Reports

Two North Korean regiments forced elements of the US Nineteenth Regimental Combat Team to withdraw from Chinju. The enemy then established a roadblock six miles south of Chinju on the road to Pusan. Enemy troops from the vicinity of Hadong, reportedly numbering 1,000, were moved south to the island of Namhae. Near Kwonbin, above Chinju, a strong enemy force attacked the Seventeenth ROK Regiment.

In the west sector two enemy battalions attempted to move north along the Kochang-Kumchon road, but were forced to withdraw. Six miles east of Iwanggan, the US First Cavalry Division has been under heavy pressure and limited penetrations on its right or north flank have been effected.

In the east sector, the ROK First and Sixth Divisions have continued to hold the line west and north of Hamchang. Six miles east of Yechon, the lines of communication of the ROK Capital Division have been threatened by an enemy roadblock. Above Andong, the ROK Eighth Division has been subjected to light mortar fire.

The ROK Third Division, south of Yongdok on the east coast has continued heavy attacks against the enemy, but no advances have been reported.

The Ninth RCT of the US Second Infantry Division has landed a substantial portion of its troops and equipment at Pusan.

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Estimated enemy casualties to 30 July number 37,597; the UN casualties, including non-battle, total 6,572.

UN naval forces bombarded the east coast and engaged in blockade patrols on the west coast.

II. Other Developments.

The South Korean National Assembly, meeting in Taegu, has passed all eight emergency laws proposed by the government providing budgetary, legal and economic measures for the period of the crisis. During the current session, scheduled to adjourn today, an average of 120 of the 210 members have been present. After adjournment, the majority of the members plan to go to Pusan, establish a "liaison office," and rally support for the government.

On 30 July the United Nations Commission on Korea (UNCOK) held the first of several planned meetings in Taegu for the purpose of spreading information to the Korean people and bolstering their morale. In their speeches, UNCOK representatives emphasized North Korea's history of non-cooperation with UNCOK in its unification efforts and described the international military efforts now being undertaken by the UN for Korea.

A possible but inconclusive indication of preparations for the movement of foreign troops into North Korea is contained in a recent field report that a "Supreme Military Committee" consisting of forty Russians, twenty Chinese, and fifty North Korean Army personnel was established in Seoul on 1 July 1950. Because a Chinese Communist Army liaison office has existed in North Korea since 1946 and Soviet advisors have been attached to North Korean GHQ since the People's Army was formed, the report, even if true, does not necessarily indicate any increase in cooperation among Chinese, Russians, and North Koreans.

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INTELLOFAX 4

COPY

2 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Summary

The enemy retains the initiative on all fronts except on the east coast. Enemy forces made slight gains toward Pusan west of Chinju and along the road to Taegu west of Byopchon. There was little change in the western sector, but UN troops were executing planned withdrawals in the eastern sector. North Korean lines of communication were subjected to the largest number of air attacks yet made by UN forces, and the vital chemical installation of Hanganam suffered heavy damage from two B-29 raids.

Sector Reports

The enemy continued heavy pressure in the southwest sector, penetrating approximately 15 miles west of Chinju and four miles northwest of Byopchon.

In the western sector, heavy pressure was being exerted on the US First Cavalry Division, and enemy forces were building up on the right flank of the US position west of Kumchon. US forces were driven out of Sangju and enemy troops were consolidating their position east of the city.

In the eastern sector, South Korean troops were withdrawing to new positions as ordered. At the same time, an enemy attack was repulsed west of Hamchang, but South Korean troops withdrew from Yechon.

Control of Yongdok on the east coast continued in doubt with enemy forces observed 1500 yards north of the destroyed town with the South Korean Third Division still attacking.

UN aircraft flew 425 sorties, the largest daily total of the war, and destroyed six enemy tanks, 45 trucks, 1 bridge, and other military equipment and targets. Two heavy raids were reported to have caused heavy damage on the Hanganam chemical center in North Korea, location of the three major industrial-chemical plants in Korea. One was the largest explosive producing plant on the Asiatic mainland, another was one of the largest chemical fertilizer and synthetic ammonia plants in the world, and the third manufactured industrial chemicals, including chlorine, caustic soda, and calcium carbide. From preliminary reports, the explosive and fertilizer plants probably suffered considerable damage in the first two raids.

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Shore installations at Mokpo were shelled by UN naval units but no reports of results have been received.

II. Other Developments.

A report from Seoul indicates that all persons between the ages of 17 and 30 have been mobilized. The men have been assigned to haul supplies to the battle areas while the women prepare food for the troops and repair roads.

Radio Pyongyang on 31 July announced the arrival of volunteer Hungarian and Bulgarian medical groups. The medical units are apparently scheduled to serve with North Korean troops.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INTELLOFAX 4

3 August 1950

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MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Summary

The action in Korea during the past 24 hours was characterized as a planned withdrawal of UN forces to defensive positions on the east bank of the Nakdong river. The enemy continued to exert heavy pressure on all fronts, particularly in the Chinju and the Hyopchon areas. In the east coast battle for Yongdok, the South Korean forces succeeded in penetrating the eastern portion of that city against determined opposition from the enemy's Fifth Division.

Sector Reports

On the south coast, a limited counterattack by a US Regiment succeeded in delaying the advance of the enemy's forces and in allowing friendly forces to withdraw and organize defense positions west of Masan.

Heavy pressure continued on the front held by the US First Cavalry Division in the western sector. The First Cavalry delayed the enemy advance and secured a perimeter in the Waegwan area to allow a southward withdrawal of the US Twenty Fifth Division. The Twenty-fourth Regiment of the Twenty-fifth Division is delaying the enemy's advance east of Sangju.

In the eastern sector, the ROK First and Second Corps executed a withdrawal from Hamchang and Andong to new defense positions along the south bank of the Nakdong river. The ROK withdrawal was covered by the ROK First Division in the Hamchang area, and by the Eighth Division in the Andong area.

The ROK Third Division has succeeded in penetrating the town of Yongdok on the east coast against bitter enemy opposition.

UN reserves consisting of the US Fifth and Ninth Regiments and elements of the First Marine Brigade are concentrated in the Pusan-Masan and Taegu areas.

UN naval forces bombarded the town of Mokpo. The east coast patrol continued to fire close support missions in the Yongdok sector. A US destroyer patrolling along the south coast reports that no enemy troops are on the island of Namhae.

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No. 9

A third heavy bombing of industrial targets at Hungnam was made by B-29s but no official reports of results have been received. Other UN air action was limited to close ground support missions, and attacks on enemy lines of communication.

II. Other Developments.

The North Koreans are claiming that elections have been held for "People's Committees" in all "liberated" provinces in South Korea, except the southern half of Kangwon Province and this omission is probably an oversight. The Communist propaganda line in Korea has always insisted that the "People's Committees" (banned by US Military Government in South Korea in September 1945) were the rightful organs of government and "re-establishment" of the "People's Committees" has consistently been put forth as a first step in their announced programs for "liberating" South Korea. The announcement that "elections" have been held in South Korea paves the way for future propaganda to the effect that the South Koreans have approved integration of their area into the framework of the "Democratic Peoples Republic".

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INTELLOFAX 4

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

422098

4 August 1950

COPY

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Summary

Action in Korea for the past twenty-four hours continues to be a planned withdrawal of the UN forces to the east bank of the Nakdong River and the occupancy of prepared defensive positions there. The enemy occupied Hamchang, Yechon, and Andong. In the other areas, the enemy is still exerting pressure. Considerable railway traffic was noted, particularly along the east coast territory in North Korean hands. The South Koreans have occupied the city of Yongdok, and are in contact with the enemy forces approximately two miles north of the city.

Sector Reports

On the south sector, friendly units in the Wonbung-Chindong area were attacked sporadically by elements of the North Korean Sixth Division. North Korean forces, probing at a point eleven miles east of Chinju, withdrew under friendly fire. US patrols encountered 800-900 enemy troops supported by armor occupying dug-in positions at a point 14 miles east of Chinju. Enemy forces are attempting to reconstruct a bridge southeast of Uiryong.

In the west sector, US patrols met small arms fire at a point 11 miles east of Hypochon, and located enemy road blocks 8 miles east of Kumchon. East of Hwanggan approximately 10,000 enemy troops were dispersed in the hills, and 20 camouflaged tanks were discovered one mile east of the city. UN air attacks and artillery fire knocked out seven enemy tanks in this area. The North Korean Third Division has occupied the city of Kumchon.

In the east sector the enemy occupied Hamchang, Yechon, and Andong, following the withdrawal of UN forces.

The North Korean Fifth Division was driven from the city of Yongdok on the east coast; South Korean forces have occupied the city and are continuing in contact with the enemy, two miles north.

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DATE: 05 Mar. 81 REVIEWER: 032931

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No. 9

Heavy southward rail traffic was noted on the east coast above the 40th Parallel, with all marshalling yards loaded with rolling and stationary stock. A heavy concentration of box cars was noted at Songjin and Kilchu. Special efforts are being made by the enemy to use smoke screens in the Chongjin area to cover the marshalling yards and the industrial sections.

US naval forces have continued to fire close support missions on the east coast, and have carried out several missions against enemy shore batteries. No sea traffic was noted on the west coast.

II. Other Developments.

US Ambassador Macoio reports that the South Korean Cabinet, with President Rhee's approval, designated a "special war committee of the Cabinet" on 3 August, consisting of the Ministers of Defense, Interior, Transportation, Finance, and Commerce. The Special Committee will meet daily to receive military briefings and to consider non-military measures to support the war effort. The Cabinet also approved in principle the establishment of a military advisory council to assist the Defense Minister. The apparent motives for establishing such a council are to keep certain inactive generals occupied and to appease public sentiment favoring the appointment of General Lee Bum Suk (the former Prime Minister) as the Minister of Defense.

DM-61

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INTELLOFAX 4

COPY

5 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

Reports of fighting between North Korean forces and ROK forces southwest of Andong indicate that the enemy has crossed the Naktong River in the north sector. Another crossing by an estimated enemy battalion has been reported east of Hamchang, and an enemy column is moving southeast from Sangju towards the Naktong River. North Korean forces have continued to exert the heaviest pressure in the Chinju area, but have also continued fairly heavy pressure in the Yongdok area. UN carrier air strikes were concentrated on the Chinju section against enemy held bridges, while other UN naval units bombarded Inchon.

Sector Reports

In heavy fighting in the southern sector, one small enemy force has pushed 20 miles east of Chinju, but on the north and south flanks of this position enemy forces have been held within 12 miles east of Chinju.

The lower west sector has been relatively quiet. There is evidence of a continued enemy build-up further to the north in the vicinity of Kumchon. In the northern part of the west sector, an enemy column was observed moving southwest from Sangju towards the Naktong River. East of Hamchang, in the northern tip of the west sector, an estimated enemy battalion has reportedly crossed the Naktong River.

Along the north sector, below Andong, fighting is reported between the North and South Korean forces several miles south of the Naktong River, but no reports have been received of the time and manner of the enemy crossing of the river at that point.

Although the situation remains stable on the east coast, heavy fighting has been reported between the ROK Third Division and the North Korean Fifth Division. South Korean forces still hold Yongdok.

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A concentration of Red guerrilla forces has been reported northwest of the Taegu airstrip. Guerrilla forces are also located southwest of Yongdok and northeast of Samnangjin, where UN reserve forces are being held.

The North Korean reserves capable of intervention reportedly consist of the First Division near Chinju, the Ninth and Fourteenth Divisions in the Taejon area, and the Fifteenth Division at Yongdong.

A junior officer prisoner of war has stated that the North Korean Third Division, located in the center of the west sector, has 15 Soviet advisors. This is the first admission by a prisoner of war that Soviet advisors are below the 38th Parallel.

UN carrier air strikes were made against bridges at Chinju and Uiryeong from vessels along the south coast, while other UN naval units bombarded Inchon.

II. Other Developments

The North Korean propaganda machine has added a new weapon to its attack, and is now claiming "proof" of its original assertion that Korean hostilities were initiated by South Korean aggression. Pyongyang is presently broadcasting the operational details of a plan, allegedly unearthed in Seoul, for the "Northern Expedition" drawn by the "American Imperialists and the Syngman Rhee gang."

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

422131

COPY

7 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Summary

The situation along all fronts remains essentially unchanged. Enemy crossings of the Nakdong river in the Twenty-fourth Division zone of responsibility are being contained and gradually reduced. However, the enemy retains the capability of effecting further crossings while maintaining pressure on other fronts. Elements of the US First Marine Provisional Brigade and of the Twenty-fifth Division began a limited counteroffensive in the Chinju-Masan region. Carrier strikes and coastal bombardment by UN fleet units continued. Fifty B-29s staged a heavy attack on the Pyongyang railroad marshalling yards.

Sector Reports

In the southern sector, limited gains were made by elements of the First Provisional Marine Brigade and Twenty-fifth Division. The enemy, however, continues to exert heavy pressure and has an estimated two divisions in reserve. In the Twenty-fourth Division zone of responsibility, an enemy bridgehead across the Nakdong river maintained by two enemy battalions is being contained and reduced. Attempts to effect other crossings are in progress.

In the central sector, held by the US First Cavalry (Infantry) Division and elements of the ROK II Corps, enemy activity has been limited to minor river crossings attempts. A sizeable enemy force remains relatively inactive in this zone.

In the ROK-defended northern sector, heavy pressure continues to be exerted by units of the enemy's Seventh and Eighth Divisions operating south of the Nakdong. Air reconnaissance reports a troop, artillery, and armor concentration in the Hamchang area.

The battle for possession of Yongdok continues with the ROK Third Division reported still holding that town. However, an enemy column is reportedly moving eastward from the central zone in a flanking attempt.

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UN surface and naval air units were active in close support missions and in interdiction of lines of communication. The USS Helena (heavy cruiser) bombarded the north Korean industrial and mining city of Tanchon.

UN air units maintained close support of troops and interdicted lines of communication. A heavy B-29 raid (50 planes) on the Pyongyang rail marshalling yards was reported to have achieved excellent results.

II. Other Developments.

No significant developments have been reported in the past 24 hours.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COPY

8 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Summary

Heavy fighting continues on the Chinju front and attacking US units have made small gains. The enemy, however, has reportedly crossed the Nam River in undetermined strength on the right flank of US troops. Continuing enemy probing attacks in the other sectors are being resisted. Considerable movement of enemy transport and tanks in the rear areas has been reported, with an enemy tank regiment eight miles east of Hyopchon in the southern sector.

Sector Reports

In the southern sector, US troops made limited gains in the Chinju area, but the enemy has been able to cross the Nam River at a point on the right flank of US troops in undetermined strength. US reconnaissance pilots report that there is considerable movement of enemy trucks on the Kumchon-Lochang road. An enemy tank regiment is reported in the area eight miles east of Hyopchon.

In the central sector, two enemy battalions have reportedly crossed the Nakdong River in the area north of Waegwan, and additional troops with trucks are attempting to cross. Enemy patrols supported by artillery and mortar fire are carrying out probing attacks on the US First Cavalry area.

The enemy is continuing to build up strength in the Sangju-Hamohang area, and air reconnaissance shows movement of over 100 vehicles and artillery pieces on the highway from Sangju to the Nakdong River. The Sixth ROK Division is under attack from an estimated three enemy regiments on a four thousand yard front, but is still holding the high ground in the area.

In the northern sector, the Yechon-Andong front is generally stabilized despite continued enemy pressure.

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Heavy fighting continues in the Yongdok area with the situation remaining unchanged.

UN naval surface and air units were active in close support missions and interdiction of lines of communication. The USS Toledo (heavy cruiser) carried out a bombardment mission along the east coast destroying roads and successfully blocking a tunnel and causing land slides.

UN air units maintained close support of troops and interdiction of enemy lines of communication. The Twenty-Second Bomber Wing reported the sighting of one submarine and one freighter in the bay just off Chinnampo on the west coast north of the 38th Parallel.

II. Other Developments.

North Korean commentators are asserting that US military "failures" in Korea are in part caused by the US "blunder" of placing too high a value on mass bombing, and by "hapless" reliance on machines. The North Koreans claim that "mass" bombing has proven an indecisive weapon and that each raid only makes the people still more determined to win the war. While US reliance on machines keeps US troops an easy prey to encirclement, the North Koreans state that they have "hundreds of thousands" of people who can transport (on their backs) all the troops needed to push forward through the hills despite US air superiority.

Major General Chong Il Kwon, Commander-in-Chief of the South Korean Army, Navy and Air Forces, has advised his officers and men that UN forces are now fully prepared to launch an offensive immediately. Probably because no other alternative would be as stimulating to the morale of the South Korean armed forces and public, General Chong stated that in annihilating the enemy, South Korean forces would cross the 38th Parallel in order to effect the long-cherished dream of national union and would advance to the Yalu River.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COPY

9 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

SUMMARY

Task Force Kean continued a slow advance against enemy resistance in the south sector during the past 24 hours. Further to the north, in the lower center sector, the US Twenty-Fourth Division is engaged in containing and reducing enemy troops that have penetrated east of the Nakdong River. In the Waegwan area, where the enemy has established bridgeheads across the Nakdong, the US First Cavalry (Infantry) Division is engaged in attempts to contain and eliminate one bridgehead, while the First ROK Infantry Division has reportedly eliminated an enemy bridgehead above Waegwan. In the north sector, however, ROK forces have withdrawn along the front south of Yechon and Andong under heavy enemy attack. Heavy fighting is continuing near the east coast town of Yongdok, but no change in positions has occurred.

Sector Reports

In the south sector, a UN force designated as Task Force Kean, and composed of the US Twenty-Fifth Division and the First Provisional Marine Brigade, is continuing efforts to reach its objective in the hills and high ground southeast of Chinju. The US 35th RCT and 5th RCT have made small gains westward, but First Marine Brigade elements striving toward the objective from Chindong have been temporarily halted.

In the lower center sector, above the junction of the Nam and Nakdong Rivers, the enemy has attempted to reinforce its bridgehead, but is meeting with strong resistance from the US 24th Division. Further to the north, the US First Cavalry Division and ROK forces are attacking other bridgeheads, one of which, above the Waegwan area, has been reportedly eliminated by ROK forces, with the ROK First Division occupying positions near the east bank of the Nakdong River, to the east of Sonsan.

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In the north sector, below Yechon and Andong, the Sixth and Eighth ROK Divisions have been forced to withdraw southward for approximately 3,000 yards to new defense positions, following strong enemy attacks.

Although heavy fighting continues in the Yongdok area, the positions remain relatively unchanged. There are reports that enemy reinforcements are heading south to join the North Korean Fifth Division above Yongdok.

A small force of guerrillas has been reported in an area eight miles south of Taegu, where the ROK provisional capital and US Eighth Army Headquarters are located.

II. Other Developments

Reports filtering out of Seoul during the second half of July indicate that both food and water are scarce and prohibitive in price. Although the North Korean regime is not distributing food to the populace, the government is executing blackmarketeers and hoarders as a measure to alleviate the shortages. The People's Committee of Seoul, the sub-committee of each ward, and subordinate street committees control the city systematically through neighborhood leftists who draw up blacklists. Laborers were conscripted in block-by-block neighborhood checks to repair the Han River bridges. Numerous bombing casualties have made the workers eager to avoid conscription wherever possible. The general populace, kept well informed by air-dropped handbills, is credited with enthusiasm and belief in the ultimate South Korean recovery while the leftists are being demoralized by UN bombings and, in doubt as to the final North Korean victory, are removing their identification armbands and modifying their behavior.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COPY

10 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

Task Force Kean's advance toward Chinju in the south has been accelerated and enemy resistance is weakening. In some areas, enemy forces are reported to be retreating, abandoning supplies and equipment. In the center sector, UN forces are continuing to reduce and eliminate bridgeheads and report no indications of enemy reinforcements of the bridgeheads. In the north sector, the Sixth and Eighth ROK Divisions have regained the positions held two days ago. The enemy, however, has captured the east coast town of Yongdok, and enemy elements have been reported as far south as Kigye, a district where guerrillas have also been reported. This movement on the east flank constitutes a serious threat to Pohang.

Sector Reports

On the southern front, the enemy is reported to be in retreat westward toward Chinju, abandoning supplies and equipment. The 35th RCT on the right has temporarily slowed its advance in order to contact the 5th RCT, moving forward in the center. Troops of the First Provisional Marine Brigade have resumed their advance on the left, heading toward the high ground southeast of Chinju. The 24th RCT, just behind the advancing forces, is engaged in mopping up enemy pockets remaining in the area west of Chindong. The enemy, although offering only light resistance now, may attempt to consolidate a new defensive position on the high ground southeast of Chinju.

In the lower center sector, just north of the junction of the Nam and Nakdong rivers, the 34th US RCT is attacking the enemy bridgehead reported in that area yesterday, and there are indications of an enemy withdrawal. Two enemy bridgeheads to the north, in the Waegwan area, are under attack. It is believed that the northernmost of these two bridgeheads has been eliminated and there are no indications of enemy attempts to reinforce either bridgehead. Reports for the US First Cavalry (Infantry) Division estimate enemy strength in its zone of responsibility east of the Nakdong River to be only 150 men; other reports state that during the withdrawals, North Koreans fired on their own forces from the rear in order to prevent a retreat. Despite readjustments, the enemy will probably continue to probe for weak spots along the center sector, in the areas held by US and ROK forces.

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The ROK Sixth and Eighth Divisions along the north sector have regained the ground lost by earlier withdrawals, but continue to be under heavy enemy pressure. The enemy will probably attempt to exert further pressure in the north, thus preventing the displacement of any reserves to the center sector.

The enemy Fifth Division, which appears to have been reinforced, has succeeded in recapturing Yongdok, on the east coast, and elements of the ROK Third Division are reported to have fallen back two miles south of Yongdok. Enemy troops have reportedly infiltrated as far south as Kigye, nine miles inland from the important east coast port city of Pohang, to join a concentration of guerrillas. The enemy forces, principally on foot, are believed to have used back roads and trails, and there are unconfirmed reports of an unknown number of tanks and artillery pieces in the area. The guerrillas are reportedly heartened by the infiltration, and the total enemy force poses a serious threat to Pohang and its adjacent airfield.

UN naval air units from the Seventh Fleet struck at Inchon and Seoul, destroying or damaging warehouses, oil storage tanks, railroad marshalling yards, and similar targets. The UN naval forces patrolling the west coast have maintained an effective patrol, although a Netherlands destroyer which has been damaged by running aground, is being towed to Sasebo by a British warship. Effective naval bombardments were continued on the east coast.

UN B-29s carried out their heaviest attack to date, dropping 625 tons of bombs on targets in North Korea. Industrial targets at Wonsan were hard hit. Other UN air forces flew over 150 sorties in support of ground troops.

II. Other Developments

No significant developments have been reported in the past 24 hours.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

422262

COPY

11 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Summary

Task Force Kean continues its advance along the southern coast against sporadic opposition. An enemy bridgehead of two-regiment size in the 24th Division zone is stubbornly resisting UN efforts to eliminate it. In the northern sector, little change is reported in the over-all situation. An enemy force of two regiments, supported by artillery and tanks, has reportedly penetrated the ROK 3rd and Capital Divisions southwest of Pohang and is threatening the fighter airfield at Yonil. (Press reports, partially confirmed by a 5th Air Force pilot, indicate that the enemy has captured Pohang.)

UN naval and air activities were limited generally to close support of troops.

Sector Reports

Task Force Kean continues to advance along the southern coast. The Marines are last reported one mile north of Kosong proceeding against light enemy resistance. The Fifth RCT was held up by a determined enemy counterattack, but contact with the 34th RCT advancing in the north was reestablished.

An enemy bridgehead in the 34th Regimental zone of the 24th Division, above the junction of the Nam and Nakdong Rivers, is now reported to have attained a strength of two regiments reinforced by artillery.

In the central and northern zone held by the US 1st Cavalry Division and the ROK I and II Corps, enemy activity was limited to concentrating troops (possibly two divisions in the Yongdong area) and to minor probing in the battalion or smaller strength.

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Although the enemy penetration in the Pohang area appears serious in that the minor port of Pohang may be lost and the fighter airfield at Yonil seriously threatened, only two enemy regiments supported by a few tanks and artillery have been identified as the invading force. Task Force Bradley (composed of a battalion of the 9th RCT, a company of engineers and a battalion of AA Automatic Weapons) has been ordered to secure the Yonil airfield. This Task Force is engaging the enemy southwest of Pohang. The ROK 25th Regiment and a ROK Marine battalion have engaged the enemy in the Pohang area. The crack ROK 17th regiment (trouble-shooter of the UN forces) has been ordered to move against the enemy's eastern flank. Unless the enemy in the Pohang area is reinforced in strength, his forces will probably be dissipated or revert to guerrilla operations.

UN naval operations were limited to airstrikes in the Inchon, Kunsan, Mokpo area, and close support of UN troops in the southern sector. A naval patrol of the west coast showed no enemy water movement.

UN air action was concentrated in close support of units and B-29 attacks against bridges. Observation of the recent air strikes against Wonsan revealed the refinery inoperable, and serious damage inflicted on the marshalling yards and repair facilities.

II. Other Developments.

Ambassador Muccio advises that of the 20,000 South Korean personnel in training, an estimated 5,000 are now available for combat. A lack of hand and infantry support weapons, however, will prevent the employment of these 5,000, and Muccio recommends that adequate weapons be forwarded by airlift.

An unevaluated report states that the aggressors plan to announce the transfer of the "Korean capital" from Pyongyang to Seoul on 15 August. Although a previous announcement to this effect has not been publicly repeated, the 15th of August, as the anniversary of liberation from the Japanese, would have wide appeal to Korean nationalism, and the announcement of the transfer could be widely broadcast as a symbol of Korean unification.

Radio Pyongyang has announced that as of 31 July, 49.5 percent of all crop taxes in kind had been paid and has called on the People's Committees to see to it that crops are harvested on time. Since the percentage figure is curiously low in contrast to the usual 90 percent claims of the North Koreans, it may indicate a shortage of North Korean agricultural manpower and security police forces.

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422285

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COPY

12 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military SituationSummary

Task Force Kean continues to advance along the south coast against diminishing enemy resistance, with the 5th and 35th RCTs securing the high ground five miles east of Chinju. In the 24th Division zone the enemy has reinforced the bridgehead above the junction of the Nam and Nakdong Rivers, penetrating to a maximum depth of four miles. This bridgehead is under attack by UN Task Force Hill which has succeeded in advancing approximately 3,500 yards against the enemy.

On the east coast the enemy is heavily engaging UN troops in the vicinity of Pohang-Dong and Yonil airfield with fighting progressing in the town and the enemy reported in possession of the railroad station.

FEAF Bomber Command reports that B-29's dropped approximately 550 tons of bombs on the important seaport and rail center of Najin-Dong, approximately 100 miles southwest of Vladivostok.

Sector Reports

In the southern sector, Task Force Kean continues to advance against diminishing enemy resistance with the US 5th and 35th RCTs securing the high ground five miles east of Chinju, while the First Marine Brigade pushed five miles west of Kosong. Many enemy pockets, bypassed in the UN advance, are being mopped up.

In the center sector, the enemy in the 24th Division zone continues to reinforce his bridgehead which now has a maximum depth of four miles. The enemy has succeeded in getting two

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batteries of artillery across the river. This bridgehead is under attack by Task Force Hill, composed of regiments of the 24th Division, and the task force has made an advance of 3,500 yards against the enemy bridgehead.

On the Waegwan front in the US First Cavalry Division zone, the enemy continued his efforts to cross the river during the night. One crossing of unknown strength was believed repelled by friendly artillery fire. In the early morning hours a small enemy force, supported by tank fire from the west bank of the river, succeeded in crossing the river at a point 13 miles southwest of Taegu. An undetermined number of the enemy supported by tanks attacked the First ROK Division six miles southeast of Sonsan.

On the northern sector, the First ROK Corps launched a limited counter attack. The enemy lines in this area are reported to be thinning out.

On the east coast, UN forces are heavily engaged with the enemy in the vicinity of Pohang and Yonil airfield with fighting progressing in the town. The enemy is reported to be in possession of the railroad station.

UN naval actions were limited to air strikes and bombardment of road junctions along the east coast. Patrol activity on the west coast revealed no enemy shipping activity.

UN air activity was confined to close support of units and bombing missions against communications. The FEAF Bomber Command reports that B-29's dropped 550 tons of bombs on the important seaport and rail center of Najin-Dong, which is approximately 100 miles southwest of Vladivostok.

II. Other Developments

No significant developments reported in the past 24 hours.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COPY

14 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Summary

Task Force Kean has reached its final objectives, but the lines of communications to this defensive US position in the south are still under continual harassment from enemy pockets which were bypassed in the advance and a large proportion of US strength in this sector is being used for mopping-up operations. Meanwhile, the enemy is continuing to reinforce its bridgehead in the central sector and air observers report preparations to move artillery and possibly tanks across the Nakdong River. To the northeast, in the Pohang-Yongdok area, the enemy is continuing to exert pressure.

UN naval and air activities during the past 24 hours were confined generally to close support of ground units. UN naval forces also raided the North Korean port of Chinnampo on the west coast and sank two enemy ships.

Sector Reports

In the southern sector, all major units of Task Force Kean have reached their final objectives in the high ground southeast and east of Chinju. However, US lines of communications are still under continual harassment from enemy groups which were bypassed during the advance. As a result, the greater proportion of US strength in this sector is being used for mopping-up operations in the rear.

In the central sector, Task Force Hill, composed of three US regiments, launched a coordinated attack against the North Korean 4th Division which is expanding a bridgehead across the Nakdong River in the US 24th Divisional zone. The US force has advanced 1000 yards and is continuing against stiff resistance.

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Immediately to the north, on the US 1st Cavalry Division front, the enemy has crossed the Nakdong at a point 12 miles southwest of Taegu and has been engaged by a regimental combat team. The enemy attack was repulsed, and US artillery fire inflicted heavy losses.

In the Waegwan area, an enemy crossing began in force early Sunday morning at a point approximately three miles north of Waegwan. On the same front, the 1st ROK Division repulsed an enemy night attack five miles north of Waegwan. Meanwhile, in the north sector no enemy activity was reported.

On the Yongdok-Pohang front, in the northeast, there was no sign of any change as UN forces continued offensive action against strong enemy resistance.

II. Other Developments.

No significant developments were reported in the past 48 hours and there were no references to earlier reports that the North Koreans intend to transfer their capital from Pyongyang to Seoul on 15 August and to announce that the political unification of Korea is now virtually completed.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

15 August 1950

MEMORANDUM~~SECRET~~

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

COPY

I. Military SituationSUMMARY

There was little change during the past 24 hours in the ground situation. Task Force Kean continued to consolidate defense positions and to wipe out enemy pockets in the Chinju region. The 4th North Korean Division bridgehead in the US 24th Division zone was under pressure from Task Force Hill, with slow progress being made. A continuing build-up is taking place in the central zone with four North Korean divisions on line and two in reserve. ROK forces in the north were withdrawing to new defense positions under light enemy pressure. The situation in the Yongdok-Pohang area remains static.

UN naval forces continued close air and fire support of tactical troops. A landing party from a US submarine blew a rail tunnel on the North Korean east coast.

UN air action was limited to tactical support missions and interdiction of lines of supply.

Sector Reports

As the US 25th Division continued to consolidate its newly won defense positions south and east of Chinju on the southern coast, two enemy armored battalions of the North Korean 105th Armored Division (formerly reported as a brigade, but recently expanded) are reported to be moving into the area. This may presage a renewed enemy offensive by the still-resisting North Korean 6th Division in Chinju.

The enemy's bridgehead in the southern portion of the US 24th Division zone was under pressure from Task Force Hill, but stubborn enemy resistance and counter-attacks limited progress.

A continued build-up, now estimated at six divisions and supporting armor, along the west bank of the Nakdong River facing the US First

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Cavalry (Infantry) Division and a division of the ROK II Corps denotes preparation for a major enemy assault in this area. The enemy probably is awaiting the arrival of more armor before launching the attack.

The northern front was quiet with two ROK divisions withdrawing to new defense positions under light enemy pressure.

The enemy forces in the Yongdok-Pohang area, tentatively identified as the 12th Division, continued to exploit the penetration; however, US Task Force Bradley, ROK Task Force Pohang, and the ROK Capital Division are attacking toward Pohang and Kigye against heavy enemy resistance.

UN naval forces continued to render air cover and close-support naval fire to tactical troops in the southern and eastern sectors. A shore-raiding party from the USS Bass (submarine) inflicted considerable damage on a rail tunnel on the North Korean east coast near the city of Songjin. Continual harassment of this single direct link between the Soviet Maritimes and the north Korean fighting zone will be reflected in the enemy's eventual logistical position.

UN air action was limited to close support and line of communication interdiction.

II. Other Developments

Commander-in-Chief, Far East, Tokyo, in assessing the effectiveness of psychological warfare operations, transmits reports from observers in friendly territory that there is good reception of UN broadcasts within the limitations of the available electric power supply.

The most effective themes of enemy propaganda operations are considered to be the US bombing of civilian and non-war installations to impoverish Korea; continuing North Korean successes demonstrate US inability to save South Korea; the Communist victory is inevitable; and tenant farmers to be given land without charge. The "victory is inevitable" theme is losing appeal, although the bombing and land distribution themes are still effective. Enemy black propaganda is spreading false rumors of UN victories in order to depress morale when the reports are proved false.

No significant announcements connected with Korean unification have been reported for 15 August. KIM Il-Sung, North Korean Premier, however, is credited with having issued an order over Radio Pyongyang to his troops to drive out the UN forces by the end of August, since the longer this is delayed the stronger UN defenses will become. This type of broadcast may forecast an all-out troop and guerrilla offensive.

TELLOFAX 4

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

16 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

The enemy continued to enlarge the bridgehead in the US 24th Division area, with a new bridgehead reportedly formed in an area about six miles south of Taksong. Task Force Kean continued to consolidate its gains and concentrate on wiping out isolated pockets in the rear area. The enemy launched an early attack against the US 24th Division in the lower central sector, but after a three hour engagement the attack was stopped. The enemy is reported to have employed 13 tanks to penetrate the ROK 1st Division positions, and to have occupied a hill about 2 miles northeast of Waegwan. In the Yongdok sector, the ROK 3rd Division will be evacuated by water to Kuryong-Pu-Ri under cover of darkness.

UN naval forces continued close air and fire support of the ground forces. Two landing parties on the east coast above the 38th Parallel destroyed a railroad bridge and blocked a railroad tunnel.

UN air forces carried out the largest raid to date in the Korean war, using a flight of 100 B-29's with a total load of 1000 tons of bombs against enemy concentrations on the west bank of the Nakdong River.

Sector Reports

In the southern sector, the US 25th Division is consolidating its present defense positions and wiping out enemy pockets in the rear estimated to contain a total of 1300 men. The enemy in this area is reported to have reentered Kosong.

In the lower central sector where the enemy bridgehead is located above the junction of the Nam and Nakdong Rivers, the enemy launched an attack against the US 24th Division forces.

On the ROK 1st Division front above Waegwan, the enemy is continuing to exert heavy pressure, while holding a hill about 2 miles northeast of the city.

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The enemy in this area is being supported by 13 tanks which have penetrated the 1st Division positions.

There have been no significant changes in the northern sector.

In the Yongdok area, the ROK 3rd Division will be evacuated to Kuryong-Pu-Ri on the peninsula east of Pohang on 16 August under cover of darkness with naval support. There has been no other significant change on the east coast sector.

UN naval bombardment continued to be employed in support of ground tactical units. A railroad bridge was demolished and a tunnel was blocked on the east coast above the 38th Parallel by a raiding party from the USS H. A. Bass. No unusual activity was noted on the west coast.

UN air activities continued to be in support of ground units. A flight of 100 B-29's dropped 1000 tons of bombs in an area $3\frac{1}{2}$ by $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles on the west bank of the Naktong River against heavy enemy concentrations reported in this area.

II. Other Developments

Both the Northern and Southern controlled radios gave extensive recognition to the fifth anniversary of V-J Day, but the day passed without any significant developments or announcements from the North. In Taegu, more than 2000 attended a public meeting to commemorate the anniversary. President Rhee, US Ambassador Muccio and a UN representative gave addresses which were broadcast and also recorded for future use.

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Approved For Release 2000/04/18 : CIA-RDP91T01172R000200030001-7

DM-73

17 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military SituationSummary

Although no significant changes have occurred along the front lines, heavy fighting continues. In the Chinha area, the enemy, following a planned withdrawal and consolidation of UN forces, is probing cautiously along the new line. The reinforced bridgehead above the junction of the Nam and Nakdong Rivers is under attack by the UN 25th Division, now reinforced by the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade; the enemy will probably attempt a break-through with the probable objective of cutting the main railroad line to Pusan in the Tongsan-Sikyung area. The enemy bridgehead further to the north, six miles south of Taksong, is also under attack, but unconfirmed reports credit the enemy with 10-20,000 replacements behind the lines in this area. East of Waegwan, the North Korean forces have been driven back by the UN 1st Cavalry Division and the ROK 1st Division. The north sector has remained stable. Below Yangdok, the ROK 3rd Division is being evacuated by water, and no enemy action has developed to hamper the withdrawal.

Sector Reports

Following the withdrawal and consolidation by the UN forces in the Chinha area, the North Korean 6th Division is probing cautiously along the new line. Because of recent losses suffered by this enemy division, it is not considered capable of becoming a serious major threat to Pusan in the near future. Task Force Koon, which conducted the offensive in this area last week, has been dissolved, and the area is now the zone of responsibility of the UN 25th Division, reinforced above its three regiments by the attachment of the 5th ROK.

In the Tongsan area, where the enemy's strongest bridgehead is located, the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade has joined Task Force Hill

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In the US 24th Division zone, and heavy fighting continues. The North Korean 4th Division is expected to attempt a break-out from the bridgehead, with the probable objective of severing the railroad lines to Pusan in the Tongsan-Kiryang area. Latest reports, however, state that the UN attack against the bridgehead is progressing satisfactorily.

Six miles south of Taesong, the enemy has crossed the river and established a bridgehead in the 1st Cavalry Division zone. Unconfirmed reports indicate that the 10th North Korean Division is in this area, and that between 10,000 and 20,000 replacements have arrived in the vicinity of Hyopchon to the southwest. The movement of the enemy in this area is considered to be directed at the US 24th Division zone to the south, and not toward Taegu.

East of Taegu, both the US 1st Cavalry Division and the ROK 1st Division have made gains against the enemy. With the over-extended US 1st Cavalry Division facing the North Korean 3rd, 13th and 15th Divisions across the river, continued heavy fighting is expected, extending northward into the ROK 1st Division zone.

Along the north sector the situation has remained stable, following the planned withdrawals of the ROK 5th and 8th Divisions. An enemy attack along the front has been contained, but North Korean forces are reported moving south from Imdo. The recently reported easing of enemy pressure against the ROK 8th Division continues, and may indicate that the North Korean 7th Division is moving eastward, possibly to join the 5th Division in a concerted thrust against the UN forces near Pohang.

On the east coast, below Tongdok, the amphibious withdrawal of the ROK 3rd Division is proceeding unimpeded by enemy action. The situation remains stable in the east coast area.

Another important railroad junction, however, is at Kyong-Ju, twenty miles from Pohang, and if the 7th and 5th Divisions join the North Korean 12th Division in the area, an attempt will probably be made to cut the rail line. This operation, combined with a severing of the line in the Kiryang area, would throttle UN communications.

Reports from the B-29 mass operations yesterday state that the mission was technically a very successful bomb drop.

UN air forces continued close support missions, and conducted bombing attacks against military targets in 15 towns, including Tongdok.

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inches, and dead. Air units of the US 7th Fleet conducted heavily destructive missions against troops and equipment behind the enemy lines in the north sector.

II. Other Developments

In spite of the North Korean threat to Taegu, the South Korean National Assembly reconvened there on 15 August after a thirteen day recess. One hundred and twenty of the one hundred and thirty-nine members registered as of 1 August were present for the session which was devoted to presentation of routine reports.

S. S. MILLER-ATINA
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central
Intelligence

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INTELLOFAX 4

18 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Summary

The front lines remain relatively unchanged on the Korean front but heavy fighting between small units continues. The enemy's principal effort appears to be in the direction of Taegu through the area defended by the US 1st Cavalry Division and the South Korean 1st Division.

South Sector

In the south sector, the enemy 6th Division has managed a quick reorganization and has followed up the US withdrawal, re-establishing contact and initiating a limited offensive against elements of US 25th Division in the Kosong area.

Center Sector

To the north in the US 24th Division sector, the enemy is resisting strong US counterattacks against the two bridgeheads on the east bank of the Nakdong River. The enemy 4th Division in the bridgehead west of Yongsan put up strong resistance to attacks by Task Force Hill, and in the bridgehead six miles south of Taksong, elements of the North Korean 10th Division resisted attacks by the US 21st Regiment.

Heavy fighting is in progress in the central sector in the vicinity of Waegwan held by the US 1st Cavalry Division and the South Korean 1st Division. A counterattack by elements of the 1st Cavalry Division, supported by armor, artillery and air, recaptured an enemy-occupied hill one mile south of Waegwan and inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy. At the same time, an enemy attack forced a 1200-yard withdrawal of elements of the South Korean 1st Division. The US 27th RCT has been ordered to attack and restore the South Korean positions in this key area north of Taegu. The enemy is reported reorganizing and regrouping opposite the South Korean 1st Division, and further attacks in the direction of Taegu are expected on this front.

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North Sector

In the north sector action is generally limited to small unit actions with no significant changes in the line.

East Sector

The status of Pohang on the east coast is not clear, but late press reports claim its recapture by UN forces. The withdrawal of the South Korean 3rd Division by sea from Yongdok to Kuryong-Pu-Ri, however, makes the North Korean 5th Division available for coordinated action with the enemy 12th Division against the line of communication from Pohang through Kyongju.

Air

UN air forces continued heavy close support missions, concentrated in the Waegwan area. Heavy bombers hit targets in North Korea, including the Pogun Chemical Plant at Hungnam.

II. Other Developments.

At the suggestion of President Rhee, the ROK National Assembly recessed on 17 August, and will be reconvened on 1 September at Pusan. Prior to recessing, the Assembly passed a proposal to establish township defense units to supplement the Youth Defense Corps. These units would perform non-military duties such as the detection of sabotage and have limited emergency police powers. All persons 14 years of age or over are subject to such employment.

Press reports indicate that the civilian population of Taegu has been ordered to evacuate the city, and that both President Rhee and Ambassador Marzio have left the city.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

19 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

In the past 24 hours, UN forces have achieved successes in the center and east sectors in heavy fighting against the enemy. Task Force Hill and the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade are continuing their attack against the Changnyong bridgehead in the 24th Division zone. Heavy enemy casualties are being inflicted as UN forces near the Nakdong River. The counterattack launched by the ROK 1st Division and the US 27th Regiment northwest of Taegu has regained high ground previously lost. On the east coast, ROK forces recaptured the towns of Pohang and Kigye. A heavy B-29 attack against military targets in the North Korean east coast city of Chongjin has reportedly achieved excellent results.

South Sector

An enemy attack in battalion strength against positions of the US 24th Regiment near Chinju succeeded initially but was repulsed by counterattack. The speed with which the enemy's 6th Division reconstituted itself strongly suggests that another enemy division has reinforced this sector.

Center Sector

Task Force Hill and the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade continued the reduction of the Changnyong bridgehead. The enemy's 4th Division, although suffering heavy casualties, is counterattacking sporadically. The right flank of the attacking Marines is threatened by the infiltration of enemy forces estimated to be a battalion. North of Taegu, the ROK 1st Division and the US 27th Regiment launched a counterattack and recaptured territory lost yesterday. An enemy armor-supported counterattack was contained and the UN attack continues northwards under light enemy resistance.

North Sector

The ROK 6th and 8th Divisions have lost contact with the enemy in their zones, suggesting a possible redeployment of enemy units in this area.

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East Sector

The 18th Regiment of the ROK Capital Division succeeded in capturing the town of Kigye and the high ground to the north. The other two regiments of the Capital Division continued to push northwards. Task Force Min, a pick-up unit a of assorted ROK marines and police, retook the town of Pohang with only light opposition. A UN patrol proceeded 10 miles up the east coast above Pohang without making contact with the enemy.

Navv

The 7th Fleet continued close air support of ground troops and coastal patrols. ROK naval units on the west coast established an advance rescue and intelligence station on the island of Tokchok, 30 miles to the west of port of Inchon.

Air

A B-29 attack against the industrial and rail transport center of Chongjin on the North Korean east coast is believed to have achieved excellent results. Marshalling yards and a large steel plant were targets

II. Other Developments

No significant developments have been reported in the past 24 hours.

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INTELLOFAX 4

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

21 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.Summary

UN forces are continuing to make gains in the center and east sectors. The enemy bridgehead over the Nakdong River in the Changnyong area has been completely eliminated, and enemy attacks in both the south and center sectors have been repulsed. The enemy appears to be either withdrawing in the north sector or shifting to other positions in the area. On the east coast, UN forces have pressed forward several miles north of the recaptured towns of Kigye and Pohang. Enemy construction of new revetments at Suwon and Kimpo airfields suggests preparations for increased air efforts, although there is no evidence of a build-up in the estimated strength of 27 aircraft now available to the North Koreans.

South Sector

The North Korean 6th Division, possibly reinforced by elements of the enemy 7th Division, formerly reported in the north sector, launched attacks in regimental strength against two units of the US 25th Division. The attack against the US 35th Regiment has been repulsed with heavy enemy losses, and the attack against the US 24th Regiment, although making a small penetration, is reported under control. South Korean marines drove enemy forces out of Tongyong and captured 35 POWs.

Center Sector

The enemy 4th Division has suffered heavy losses in retreating from the bridgehead across the Nakdong River in the US 24th Division zone southwest of Changnyong. Further north, the enemy still maintains a bridgehead in the Taksong area, and there are unconfirmed reports of enemy armor and artillery in the bridgehead. Enemy activity opposite the US 1st Cavalry Division has been confined to patrol action and sporadic artillery fire, but reports continue to indicate a build-up west and north of Waegwan. To the north of the US 1st Cavalry positions, the enemy launched an attack against positions of the US 27th Regiment and the South Korean 1st Division. The attack has been repulsed, but the enemy continues to exert heavy pressure along the entire front.

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North Sector

This sector has been quiet. Patrols of the South Korean 8th Division have made relatively deep penetrations without contacting the enemy. The North Korean forces may be withdrawing from this sector for use elsewhere, or may be regrouping in the rear.

East Coast

The enemy 12th Division has been defeated in its attempt to take the Pohang area, and the South Korean Capital and 3rd Divisions have advanced approximately four miles north of Kigye and Pohang against light, but gradually increasing, resistance.

Navy

Visual reconnaissance of the Korean west coast on 19 August indicated there was little enemy activity in the harbors of Inchon, Kunsan, and Mokpo.

Air

Photo reconnaissance has revealed 19 new and six repaired revetments at Kimpo airfield, one probably new revetment at Taejon, and eight probably new or repaired revetments at Suwon. The building and repairing of revetments suggests that the North Koreans anticipate reinforcements for their air force, which has been reduced to an estimated 27 planes.

II. Other Developments.

Ambassador Muccio reports from Taegu that the city is returning to normalcy. Conflicting orders issued on 18 and 19 August sent a large portion of the population streaming southward with a consequent lowering of over-all ROK morale. An estimated 80 percent of those who left the city have returned over the weekend, and, despite ineffective shelling of the city from extreme ranges, normal activities are being resumed.

In the occupied areas, the North Koreans are attempting to ensure control and security by imposing travel restrictions on the movements of persons over 12 kilometers from their domiciles, and by threatening to impose the death penalty against all those who have failed to surrender radios capable of receiving short wave broadcasts.

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422494

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

22 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Summary

The principal enemy activities during the past 24 hours were concentrated in the south sector where the enemy 6th Division is exerting heavy pressure in the direction of Masan, and in the center sector where heavy fighting continues 15 miles north of threatened Taegu. There was little action in other sectors, except on the east coast north of Pohang and Kigye where UN forces advanced one to two miles.

South Sector

The enemy 6th Division, probably reinforced by the 7th Division, exerted heavy pressure against the entire front held by the US 25th Division west of Masan. North Korean forces have forced US elements from several advantageous terrain positions and have penetrated the area of one US company. US counterattacks have failed to restore positions lost yesterday. Enemy forces also attacked the South Korean Marine unit holding Tongyong.

Center Sector

There was little activity and no change in the positions held by the US 24th Division and the US 1st Cavalry Division along the Nakdong river. Northeast of Waegwan, however, an enemy battalion has penetrated to the rear of the US 27th Regiment and is hampering action by the regiment. Both the US 27th Regiment and the South Korean 1st Division repelled heavy enemy attacks that were supported by tanks and artillery.

North Sector

South Korean troops continued to report no enemy contact in the north sector.

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East Sector

On the east coast enemy resistance was light as South Korean troops advanced an additional one or two miles north of Kigye and Pohang. Resistance is stiffening, however, and the North Korean 5th Division has probably joined the 12th in defense of this sector.

Navy and Air

There was no significant enemy naval or air action. US planes continued to fly night intruder missions against enemy troops and line of communications. A major B-29 group which was scheduled to make a visual strike against Najin on the east coast near the North Korean-Manchurian border encountered poor visibility and bombed Chongjin by radar instead.

II. Other Developments.

No significant developments have been reported in the past 24 hours.

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INTELLOFAX 4

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

23 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

There was little change in the ground situation during the past 24 hours. The enemy continued to press his attack along the south coast and in the Waegwan area. The North Korean forces in the bridgehead six miles south of Taksong, in the 24th Division zone, were reinforced by an undetermined number of troops.

UN naval and air action was limited to routine patrols and close ground support missions.

South Sector

Limited counterattacks by the three defending regiments of the US 25th Division succeeded in regaining ground lost yesterday west of Masan, but heavy enemy pressure continues. A number of prisoners from the enemy 4th Division have been taken in this area, which may indicate that the 4th Division, decisively beaten in the Changnyong bridgehead, has been redeployed southwards.

Center Sector

The areas defended by the US 24th Division and the US 1st Cavalry Division remained generally quiet. Elements of the enemy's 10th Division not only continued to resist, but also to expand slightly in the bridgehead six miles south of Taksong. The US 2nd Division is relieving the 24th Division. The ROK 1st Division and the US 27th Regiment were heavily engaged in the northwestern corner of the sector above Waegwan. An enemy infiltration in unknown strength succeeded in cutting the 27th Regiment's line of communication and an element of the US 23rd Regiment is attempting to reduce this threat.

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The surrender of a North Korean Lieutenant Colonel, Commander of an artillery regiment of the enemy 13th Division, may indicate the untrustworthiness of personnel in this division and other divisions in the series numbered above the first six.

Northern Sector

Little activity was reported in this sector. The ROK 8th Division continued patrolling northwards in an effort to make contact with the enemy.

East Sector

The ROK Capital and 3d Divisions advanced slowly northwards against light resistance. The 18th Regiment on the left flank of the Capital Division withdrew 500 yards under heavy enemy pressure.

Naval

UN naval activities were limited to routine patrolling and coastal bombardment. A British destroyer off the Ongjin Peninsula was damaged by two North Korean YAK fighter planes.

Air

UN air action was limited to close support and interdiction of lines of communication. The RAAF fighter squadron has been cited for outstanding efforts.

II. General Situation

The Communist radio in Seoul has announced that the "land reform" program has been completed in "liberated" Kyonggi and Kangwon Provinces. The "land reform" program for South Korea was originally announced by Radio Pyongyang on 5 July 1950. In general the "land reform" ordinance is the same as the one implemented in North Korea in 1946, providing for confiscation and free distribution of land; but, initially at least, it permits larger individual holdings of land, and also exempts from confiscation and re-distribution former Japanese land that was sold to farmers in the partial land reform carried out by the US Military Government in 1948.

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INTELLOFAX 4

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

24 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

The overall military situation remained relatively unchanged over the past 24 hours while both sides continued to probe and adjust lines. A decrease in pressure is reported in the Waegwan area, but enemy resistance is simultaneously stiffening in the north sector. UN naval action was limited to patrolling and bombarding military targets on the east coast. B-29's again attacked the chemical plants at Hungnam in North Korea with excellent results.

South Sector

The North Koreans are believed to be regrouping forces in the area immediately along the south coast. In the center of the sector, the US 35th Regiment patrolled 3,500 yards westward with no contact reported. ROK marines continue to hold Tongyong.

Center Sector

All but one regiment of the US 24th Division has been relieved by the US 2nd Division. An enemy force of battalion size has been reported on the west bank of the Nakdong, immediately opposite the Taksong bridgehead which is still held by a regiment of the enemy's 10th Division.

Northeast of Waegwan, elements of the 23rd Regiment of the 2nd Division have cleared the main supply route of the 27th Regiment of the 25th Division. An estimated 1,000 enemy troops remain in the rear area. On the front held by the ROK 1st Division and the US 27th Regiment, a decrease in enemy pressure has been noted. A heavy enemy artillery concentration on the left flank of the ROK 6th Division has been reported.

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North Sector

Heavy enemy pressure on the right flank of the ROK 6th Division and the left flank of the ROK 8th Division caused a slight withdrawal of UN forces. The 16th Regiment of the 8th Division engaged elements of the enemy's 101st Regiment (a security unit) with considerable success.

East Sector

The ROK Capital and 3rd Divisions continued northward. Increasingly heavy pressure is reported in the easternmost portion facing the ROK 3rd Division.

Navy

UN naval forces continued patrolling and bombardment of the east coast. A delayed report states that immediately following the air attack on the British destroyer on 23 August, two fighter planes attacked an ROK naval craft in the same vicinity.

Air

B-29's bombed the fertilizer plant of the Hungnam chemical complex with excellent results. Close ground support and interdiction of lines of communication continued. Five new fighter-type aircraft have been identified at a North Korean airbase.

II. General Situation

Radio Pyongyang has broadcast a detailed listing of installations damaged and destroyed by UN bombing in North Korea. The list appears to be fairly accurate, and its release indicates that the Soviet Union considers the propaganda value of this information of greater importance than any military considerations involved in attempting to keep secret the effectiveness of the bombing.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

There were no significant changes in the front lines during the past 24 hours, and except for sharp local engagements in the south and center sectors, action was confined to patrolling and sporadic exchanges of mortar and artillery fire. Enemy movements behind the lines indicated a continued build-up near Chinju in the south sector. Heavy enemy pressure on the ROK 6th Division may indicate preparations for a diversionary thrust from the Uisong area along the road towards Yongchon.

South Sector

The enemy continued to move re-inforcements into the Chinju area in the south sector and launched a strong attack against elements of the US 25th Division. The attack was repulsed after two hours of heavy fighting. Enemy troops are reported to have occupied Namhae and Changson Islands on the coast south of Chinju.

Center Sector

Action in the center sector, along the Nakdong River, was confined to patrol actions and exchanges of artillery fire. The enemy build-up in the rear of the US 27th Regiment north of Taegu was greatly reduced by elements of the US 23d Regiment. A night attack by enemy elements against the 27th Regiment was repulsed.

North Sector

Elements of the North Korean 8th Division, supported by tanks and artillery, are exerting heavy pressure on the ROK 6th Division north of Uihong. The enemy has forced slight withdrawals of ROK units, but counter-attacks are now in progress. The enemy may be attempting a diversionary thrust towards the Uisong-Yongchon road.

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East Sector

Enemy forces are offering increasing resistance and the ROK 3rd Division is in contact with North Korean forces along the entire front north of Pohang.

Navy

UN forces continued coastal patrols, bombardment of coastal targets, and close aerial support of friendly ground forces.

Air

Reconnaissance subsequent to yesterday's report disclosed no evidence of new aircraft previously reported at Simmak airfield in North Korea, and no unusual enemy air preparations were discovered.

II. General Situation

No significant developments have been reported in the past 24 hours.

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422622

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

26 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

For the third successive day the overall situation has been quiet, and the front lines have remained relatively unchanged. Minor attacks and counterattacks, in addition to probing and patrolling, occurred in several sectors. Heaviest enemy pressure was in the east sector, where ROK units were forced to make slight withdrawals. UN naval air continued close support missions, and air force units continued attacks against enemy equipment, troop concentrations, and other targets in the rear areas.

South Sector

Enemy forces in the Chinju area, now estimated to be at least five regiments, continue probing and patrolling. Several minor attacks resulted in temporary gains, but counterattacking UN forces restored their positions. North Korean troop and vehicle movements in this area have increased sharply during the past week, possibly indicating a new offensive eastward towards Masan. Any such offensive, however, would probably be principally diversionary.

Center Sector

North Korean forces, estimated to be a company, have established gun emplacements west of the Nakdong River, in the Yongsan area, and other troops have "dug-in" west of the river about six miles southeast of Chogyo. UN patrols have succeeded in crossing the Nakdong in the US 2nd Division zone. The US 1st Cavalry Division destroyed an underwater bridge near Waegwan. The heaviest enemy concentration is still estimated to be in the Waegwan-Kunwi area, where the recent heavy assaults towards Taegu occurred.

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North Sector

No significant action has been reported on the front held by the ROK 8th Division.

East Sector

In the vicinity of Kigye, enemy attacks have forced a slight withdrawal of ROK units, but the situation remains relatively stable.

Navy

UN naval forces continued coastal patrols and supporting missions, firing also on targets of opportunity. Carrier air units furnished close ground support.

Air

UN air forces scored heavily against tanks, locomotives, warehouses, and other targets in the rear areas, and B-29's struck against the marshalling yards at Kilchu, with good to excellent results reported.

II. General Situation

No significant developments have been reported during the past 24 hours.

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INTELLOFAX 3

Approved For Release 2000/08/01 : CIA-RDP91T01172R000200030001-7 422623

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

28 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

UN forces suffered slight reverses in two sectors during the past 48 hours, but the broad central front remained quiet. Strong North Korean forces in the north and east sectors succeeded in capturing the towns of Uihung and Kigye from ROK units. UN naval activities were confined to surface patrols, close support missions, and air attacks in northeast Korea. FEAF aircraft flew 500 missions on 27 August. A large troop concentration in the Kyomipo-Sariwon area (North Korea) was attacked by fighters, and B-29's bombed the northeastern industrial city of Songjin.

South Sector

The North Koreans continued aggressive patrolling and limited small unit attacks; but US forces successfully repulsed the enemy efforts.

Center Sector

Numerous enemy attempts to put patrols across the Nakdong River were stopped by artillery and small arms fire from the US 2nd Division. The 1st Cavalry Division reports increasing difficulty in friendly patrolling attempts on the west bank of the Nakdong.

North Sector

The ROK 6th Division was forced to withdraw below the town of Uihung. The enemy, however, has been reportedly contained 3 miles southeast of that town. No activities were reported on the front held by the ROK 8th Division.

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East Coast

A determined North Korean drive succeeded in retaking the town of Kigye from ROK forces. The ROK 3rd Division north and west of Pohang is under increasingly heavy pressure. Task Force Jackson, consisting of the ROK I Corps, the US 21st Regiment, and one battalion of the US 9th Regiment, has been activated and ordered to retake the high ground north and east of Kigye.

Navy

UN forces continued patrolling and close support missions. Air units of the 7th Fleet bombed targets in northeast Korea.

Air

Following a report on 27 August that a column of enemy troops and vehicles 15 miles long was moving southwards from Pyongyang, FEAF aircraft attacked the following night. Later daylight observation of the area revealed no activity. B-29's attacked the North Korean east coast industrial city of Songjin with excellent results.

II. General Situation

The ROK Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has estimated that the rice production of 2.3 million tons will be equal to 1949 production in spite of war damage. The summer grain crop is estimated to be 25% over last year. Approximately 70% of the 1950 rice crop is estimated to be south of a line running from Taejon to Yongdok.

The Commanding General of the Far East Air Force has estimated that the thorium plant at Hungnam has been 35% destroyed and has suffered an additional 40% heavy damage. This plant reportedly processed monozite which is a primary source of thorium and other elements used in the atomic energy production.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

29 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

ROK forces made limited gains in the north and east sectors. While the broad center front was quiet, the south sector was subjected to almost continuous small-unit probing attacks. UN naval units fired close support missions in the Pohang area, while aircraft from two carriers attacked targets along the Korean east coast. Air action continued in close support of ground troops, while B-29's hit the marshalling yards in the North Korean east coast city of Chongjin.

South Sector

The US 25th Division has been subjected to almost continuous small-unit attacks during the past few days by the North Korean 6th Division. The Northern 7th Division, tentatively identified in this region, is believed to consist of only one regiment. Continuous movement of troops and vehicles in this area, however, may presage renewal of a major offensive toward Masan.

Center Sector

Action along the Nakdong river was limited to patrolling.

North Sector

The ROK 6th Division, forced back below Uihung during the last few days, has reportedly regained this lost ground. Although the Northern 15th Division has been tentatively identified in this area, the enemy will probably deploy its main forces elsewhere while maintaining pressure in this sector.

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East Sector

Reports indicate that the ROK Capital Division has succeeded in retaking the town of Kigye. Pressure on the ROK 3rd Division, north of Pohang, appears to have been eased.

Navy

Aircraft from two US carriers attacked shipping, railroad equipment, supply dumps, and bridges along the North Korean east coast. Patrolling of the Korean east and west coasts continued. Naval units in the Pohang area fired close support missions for ROK ground units.

Air

Although the majority of the nearly 600 sorties flown were in support of ground troops and in interdiction of lines of communication, B-29's hit the rail marshalling yards in the North Korean east coast city of Chongjin. The target was 1,000 railroad cars concentrated in the yards; excellent results have been reported.

II General Situation

Shin Sung Mo, Prime Minister and Defense Minister of the ROK, has informed the press that the government has begun a manpower drive to reinforce existing South Korean divisions and to build up mountain battalions to hunt down guerrillas. Conscripts will be drawn mainly from the estimated 250,000 men of military age among the refugees who fled southward ahead of the Communist advance.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

30 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

UN defenders in the east have been forced to withdraw from Kigye to positions 500 yards south of the town, and heavy fighting is continuing in the Pohang area. Other sectors have remained relatively quiet, with some increase in enemy activity observed in the south. UN naval units hit targets in west Korea, and executed call-fire missions as requested by ground troops. The air force flew nearly 600 sorties, attacking bridges at Seoul and marshalling yards at Seoul, Suwon, and Namwon.

South Sector

Considerable enemy activity has been reported from the south sector, particularly in the area toward Kosong, opposite the US 5th RCT positions, where the enemy made slight penetrations. The US 35th RCT, west of Masan, maintained patrols, but further to the north, below the junction of the Nam and Nakdong Rivers, the US 24th RCT regained some ground against stubborn enemy resistance.

Center Sector

A few miles above the Nam and Nakdong River junction, four boatloads of enemy troops attempted a crossing to the area formerly held as a bridgehead; one boatload was sunk by fire from units of the US 2nd Division, and the other three returned to the west bank of the river. Near Waegwan, on the west bank of the Nakdong, the North Koreans have set up a loudspeaker as a propaganda device, probably to counteract the frequent dropping of leaflets by UN forces in this area.

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North Sector

An enemy attack below Uihung resulted in a slight gain, but the attack has been contained by ROK forces. Further to the east, near Chidong, ROK forces seized a hill recently lost. A small enemy group attacked the Command Post of the ROK 6th Division, but withdrew after a short fight.

East Sector

Strong attacks by the enemy have resulted in the loss of Kigye, as UN units were forced to withdraw to positions approximately 500 yards south of the town. Heavy fighting is continuing near Pohang, where the ROK 3rd Division is attacking, but making slow progress. The platoon of enemy troops that set up a road block one mile south of Pohang has been dispersed, but another enemy roadblock has been established two miles southwest of Pohang. Small enemy groups remain in the general area around Pohang.

Navy

UN naval air units struck targets in west Korea, and supported ground troops in South Korea. Naval vessels executed call-fire missions in support of ground troops as requested. Patrols continued in Korean and Formosan waters.

Air

Bridges at Seoul and marshalling yards at Seoul, Suwon, and Namwon were targets of UN air forces in flying nearly 600 sorties. Two trains and a convoy were also attacked. Additional reconnaissance flights in the Kyomipo area, where a 15-mile enemy column was recently attacked, resulted in further negative reports.

II. General Situation

According to a "South Korean" news source, a new tactic has appeared in the North Korean psychological warfare campaign. Wives and families still in occupied areas have been forced to write letters to South Koreans fighting for the UN, urging them to defect. The letters are delivered by refugees coming through the lines.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

31 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation.

I. Military Situation

Summary

Fighting is continuing in the north and east sectors, but no substantial changes in positions have occurred. Enemy activity is increasing somewhat in the rear areas of the center and north sectors. UN naval and air force units continued to make heavy strikes against air fields, industrial areas, railroads and enemy troop concentrations.

South Sector

Patrolling and minor fire attacks occurred in the US 25th Division zone. The US 24th RCT regained some lost ground. The ROK marines, in the course of patrolling, caused confusion among the enemy troops, who started fighting among themselves, with an estimated 60 casualties resulting.

Center Sector

Enemy activity increased along the west bank of the Nakdong, with renewed but unsuccessful attempts to cross the river in the US 2nd Division zone. An undetermined number of enemy troops and vehicles were reported moving eastward on the road from Kumchon to Waegwan. The US 38th RCT made probing attacks against the Hyonpung bridgehead, and reported an increase of enemy activity in that area. The US 7th RCT attacked northeast of Waegwan, but was repulsed, and suffered casualties from booby-trapped foxholes.

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North Sector

The ROK 19th RCT was forced to withdraw nearly three miles, but contained the enemy attack in the new position south of Uihung. Increasing enemy night movements from Uisong to the southeast have been reported.

East Sector

No substantial changes have occurred in positions along the front lines in the east; however, heavy fighting has continued. The enemy roadblock two miles southwest of Pohang was eliminated, but enemy groups in the hills have been harassing the main supply route with small arms fire.

Navy

Carrier air operations were shifted from the east coast to the west coast, where heavy strikes were made against the west coast railway. Other naval air units attacked enemy troops in the north and center sectors of the line. Surface vessels bombarded targets in the Pohang area, and in the south sector.

Air

Attacks by UN air forces were made against 60 different locations, including the airfields at Seoul, Suwon, and Kangnung. The industrial complex at Chinnampo has been destroyed to such an extent that the area has been removed from the list of strategic targets. Other air units continued close support missions, with an estimated 500-700 enemy killed in the Kigye area.

II. General Situation

No significant developments have been reported in the past 24 hours.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

1 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

The enemy has launched what appears to be an all-out offensive in the south and center sectors. Along the south sector front, the regiments of the 25th Division are maintaining most of their defense positions but the enemy penetrated 2,500 yards in the area near Komam. US 25th Division reserves are moving against this threat. In the lower center sector, the enemy has crossed the Naktong River in three places. The US 9th Regiment in the Yongsan area was the hardest hit. The situation remains relatively static in the north and east, with the ROK 3rd Division regaining 1,500 yards along the east coast.

UN naval units were hurriedly diverted from a planned strike on the Korean west coast to give close support to the 25th Division in the south. Both naval air and surface fire supported the ground troops.

Air action was limited to close support and interdiction of lines of communication.

South Sector

The enemy's 6th Division, reinforced by elements of the 7th Division, jumped off in an all-out attack along the front defended by the US 25th Division. Although the general line was maintained, the enemy succeeded in penetrating 2,500 yards near the town of Komam. Divisional reserves from the 27th Regiment are moving against this threat. Heavy fighting continues on the entire front.

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Center Sector

Strong enemy attacks were launched across the Naktong River in the 2nd Division zone. Initial gains were made against the 38th Regiment in the north section of the zone and the 9th Regiment in the south. Enemy troops estimated to be three enemy battalions have crossed the river. The enemy's badly-mauled 4th Division has probably been reinforced. UN Divisional reserves have been committed to contain these attacks. To the north, an enemy attack near Taksong in the lower part of the US 1st Cavalry Division zone was repulsed by elements of the 23rd Regiment.

North Sector

The front which extends from Waegwan east to beyond Uihung and which is now being held by the US 1st Cavalry and the ROK 1st and 6th Divisions remained static with only light contacts with the enemy.

East Sector

Task Force Jackson continued to defend the east coast area. The ROK Capital and 8th Divisions maintained their positions, while the 23rd Regiment of the ROK 3rd Division regained 1,500 yards along the east coast. US units attached to Task Force Jackson remain in reserve.

Navy

A proposed naval strike along the Korean west coast was postponed, and naval air and surface units were diverted to the south coast to support the defending US 25th Division. Additional close support bombardment was provided for the ROK Units along the east coast.

Air

UN air action was limited to close support of ground units and to interdiction of forward and rear area lines of communication. Two North Korean Yak fighters shot down a ROK observation plane in the north sector near Kunwi.

II. General Situation

No significant developments have been reported in the past 24 hours.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

422746

2 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

Heavy fighting is in progress in the south sector where the enemy is utilizing elements of at least four and probably five divisions against the US 25th and 2nd Divisions defending the southern approaches to Pusan. The enemy has made several penetrations in US lines, but counterattacks by US reserves have partially restored the original positions and forward US positions are generally holding firm. Late press reports indicate a continuing success for US counterattacks. The situation remained generally static in other sectors.

US bombers struck iron works and communications in the North Korean west coast port of Kyomipo.

South Sector

The North Korean 6th Division, supported by at least two additional regiments, continued heavy attacks against the US 25th Division west of Masan. The enemy made minor gains west of Haman and effected a 6,000 yard penetration north of that town. Counterattacks by US forces have partially restored some of the original positions, and the enemy attack is being contained. The 25th Division estimates that on 1 September the enemy suffered 3,000 casualties in the southern area.

In the northern portion of the south sector, the US 2nd Division is heavily engaged by elements of two and possibly three enemy divisions attacking across the Nakdong River towards Yongsan and Changnyong. The enemy has penetrated to within approximately four miles of these two points and heavy fighting continues. Late press reports indicate these penetrations are being reduced by successful 2nd Division counterattacks.

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Center Sector

The US 1st Cavalry Division repulsed enemy patrols crossing the Naktong River and in addition gained high ground northeast of Waegwan, ROK forces drove an enemy force estimated to be of regimental strength out of Hwasan (north of Sinnyong).

East Sector

UN forces made slight gains northwest of Kigye.

Navy

US carrier units struck at enemy sea and land communications on the west coast, and provided close ground support to UN troops in the south sector.

Air

UN air forces continued close ground support, and heavy bombers struck the Kyomipo iron works and marshalling yards with fair to excellent results.

II. General Situation

US Ambassador Muccio has cabled from Pusan that the completed report by the United Nations Commission on Korea (UNCOK), which is being hand carried from Pusan to Lake Success, unequivocally places responsibility on the North Korean Communists for the aggression in Korea, and implies Soviet support for the North Korean action. The report contains no recommendations for future UN action in Korea, and Muccio states that the views within UNCOK are wide apart on this subject.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

5 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

Over the weekend, North Korean forces in considerable strength broke through positions held by the ROK forces on the east coast in a push toward Kyongju. The US 24th Division has been ordered to move into the area. Along the rest of the defense perimeter, UN forces generally held their positions against heavy enemy pressure.

UN naval units gave close support fire to ground units along the east and south coast, and attacked North Korean military and industrial targets in the Pyongyang area.

UN air units rendered close support to ground units, and B-29's attacked a gunpowder plant in the North Korean industrial city of Haeju on the west coast.

South Sector

The US 25th Division continued to maintain its general defense positions in the face of continuous attacks from the enemy's 6th and 7th Divisions. A battalion of the 27th Regiment is encircled by the enemy and is being supplied by airdrop. To the north in the US 2nd Division's zone, elements of the 2nd Division and the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade are making slow progress against the Changnyang bridgehead. Other units of the 2nd Division continue to hold new positions following earlier withdrawals.

Center Sector

The 27th UK Brigade (two battalions) has moved into the line in the southernmost portion of the US 1st Cavalry's zone near Taksong. The 5th and 7th Cavalry Regiments continue

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to hold their positions along the Nakdong River to Waegwan. Strong enemy forces in the area to the northeast of Waegwan cut off elements of the 8th Cavalry Regiment, but contact was made with these isolated elements later.

East Sector

The sector held by the ROK 1st and 6th Divisions remained relatively quiet with only light enemy contact. The enemy's 12th Division penetrated positions defended by the ROK Capital Division in the Kigye area and is reported to be threatening the key city of Kyongju. The US 21st Regiment has established a defense perimeter around the city, and the US 24th Division has been ordered into the area. The ROK 8th and 3rd Divisions continued to hold on the right and left flanks of the enemy breakthrough.

Navy

Fire missions in support of ground troops were executed by UN naval forces on the eastern and southern coastal fronts. Other naval units attacked military and economic targets in the Pyongyang area on the North Korean west coast.

Air

FEAF units provided close support to ground units. B-29's attacked a gunpowder plant in the North Korean west coast industrial city of Haeju. North Korean air action was again reported in the northern sector when a Yak fighter attacked a UN observation plane.

Press reports indicate that a twin-engine bomber marked with red stars (similar markings are used by the North Korean air force) was shot down when it attacked a UN fighter patrol. A body recovered from the wreckage by a UN destroyer was identified as being that of a Soviet officer. (No official confirmation of the press report has reached CIA.)

II. General Situation

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

6 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

The front lines remained relatively stable in all sectors except the caved-in northern front from the Yongchon area to Pohang on the east coast. In this area, enemy attacks forced a UN withdrawal from Pohang, and strong enemy units are threatening both Kyongju and Yongchon, key communication centers on the transportation network connecting Pohang, Taegu, and Pusan.

Bad weather seriously curtailed UN air support for ground units. Reconnaissance flyers continued to report large movements of enemy troops and vehicles southward along the west coast of North Korea, and two large convoys were sighted on the east coast moving south toward Pohang.

South Sector

The US 25th Division continued to hold its position against diminishing attacks by the enemy 6th and 7th Divisions. A pocket of 1,000 enemy troops in the vicinity of Haman was completely wiped out. Further to the north in the US 2nd Division sector, US Marines and elements of the 2nd Division pushed the enemy back to the Naktong River southwest of Changnyong and occupied defense positions along commanding terrain.

Center Sector

Units of the US 1st Cavalry Division withdrew from the walled town on Kasan mountain about ten miles north of Taegu, but the division continued to contain the enemy along its entire front. British troops in this sector went into action for the first time against enemy patrols east of the Naktong River.

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East Sector

The enemy remained relatively inactive on the UN left (western) flank in this sector, but the ROK 6th Division attacked to the north to close the gap between the division and the US 1st Cavalry Division on its left. There was little enemy activity in front of the ROK 8th Division, but further to the east, elements of three enemy divisions were pushing hard to cut the road running from Pohang through Kyongju to Yongchon. The enemy lost five tanks to combined UN naval, air, and artillery action north of Pohang, but forced the ROK 3rd Division out of Pohang. The situation in the area between Yongchon and Kyongju is obscured, but an extensive enemy breakthrough in the ROK Capital Division sector is threatening both cities. (Late press reports from Tokyo state that Yongchon has fallen to the enemy.) Reserve elements of the US 24th Division are moving into the area to reinforce the UN troops in the line.

Navy

US naval units cooperated in destroying five enemy tanks north of Pohang, and naval aircraft hit communication lines in northwest Korea.

Air

Bad weather limited UN air operations to the smallest number of sorties in five weeks. US heavy bombers encountered accurate flak in a raid on marshalling yards at Pyongyang and five planes were damaged.

II. General Situation

Councillor of Embassy Drumright advises that General Walker on 4 September issued orders for the immediate transfer of the UN military headquarters from Taegu to Pusan leaving only a skeleton staff in Taegu. General Walker will remain with the skeleton staff. The move has been dictated by the serious North Korean encroachment in the Kyongju-Yongchon area during the past two days where the South Korean forces have shown little capability to contain the enemy threats. General Walker advised the ROK Prime Minister to move the South Korean military headquarters to Pusan and this was scheduled for 5 September. The Prime Minister will shuttle between the two cities while the Home Ministry plans to remain in Taegu for the present.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

422811
7 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

There has been little change in the front lines during the past 24 hours. The enemy has continued to exert heavy pressure against UN forces defending the Kyongju-Yongchon road in the east sector. Heavy artillery and mortar fire has been directed against UN forces all along the south front. Enemy forces, supported by tanks, have entered Waegwan. UN air units flew a record number of combat air sorties in good weather.

South Sector

Elements of the US 25th Division received extremely heavy enemy mortar and artillery fire, but there were no reports of large enemy infantry attacks. Recently located enemy pockets in the rear of US positions were mopped up with an estimated 500 enemy wiped out in one pocket. Further to the north in the Yongsan-Changnyong area, the US 2nd Division received heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire, and repulsed several enemy attacks with little change in positions.

Center Sector

The US 1st Cavalry Division, holding the line west and north of Taegu, reported continuous enemy attacks and several small enemy infiltrations of the defense perimeter north of Taegu. The battered town of Waegwan, about 12 miles northwest of Taegu, is now occupied by enemy troops supported by several tanks. There was no significant enemy activity in the ROK 1st and 6th Division zone northeast of Taegu. The ROK 8th Division cleared an enemy road block on the main highway two miles southeast of Yongchon.

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East Sector

The situation in the east sector remains fluid with enemy forces reported along a line running four miles north and north-east of Yongchon and six miles north of Kyongju. Enemy attacks toward Kyongju are continuing against elements of the ROK Capital Division and the US 24th Division. There was no significant activity in the Pohang area, but the enemy continued pressure against the ROK 3rd Division defending south of the city.

Navy

UN naval units engaged in patrol activity, and delivered fire support for ground units in the Pohang area and on the Korean south coast.

Air

The heaviest tactical air assault in 72 consecutive days of air operations was made in good weather by UN air forces which flew a total of 620 sorties, including 440 combat attacks. More than half the missions were in support of UN ground forces in the east sector. US heavy bombers struck iron works in the North Korean city of Chongjin on the east coast.

II. General Situation

No significant developments have been reported during the past 24 hours.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

422826

8 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

During the past 24 hours no major changes occurred in the battle line. ROK and US forces on the east coast continued to launch limited attacks to stabilize this still confused sector. The ROK 8th Division in the Yongchon area drove enemy patrols with tanks out of that key communication town. North of Taegu, elements of the US 1st Cavalry Division forced the enemy from a strategic ridge and are continuing a cautious advance northward.

UN Naval action was limited to patrolling, close support fire missions, and air strikes in west central Korea.

Air forces continued attacks in close support of ground units and in line of communication interdiction. B-29's hit industrial and transportation installations in the North Korean east coast city of Songjin.

South Sector

Despite continuing enemy pressure, the US 25th Division has defended its positions with no loss of ground. Press reports indicate that the civilian population of Masan has been ordered to evacuate the city in order to protect the rear areas in the 25th Division zone against enemy infiltrations.

To the north along the Nakdong River, the US 2nd Division adjusted its northern flank to join the British 27th Brigade. The 23rd Regiment made a limited counterattack to secure more favorable terrain. The 38th Regiment was attacked with results as yet unreported.

Center Sector

In the Waegwan area, the US 1st Cavalry Division consolidated a new defense line utilizing more favorable terrain. The 8th

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Regiment forced the enemy from a ridge in the vicinity of the Walled City on Kasan mountain and is continuing a cautious attack to the north. The ROK 1st and 6th Divisions adjusted their lines north to join with the US 1st Cavalry. A heavy enemy attack was launched against the 15th Regiment of the ROK 1st Division but no gains have been reported. A heavy concentration of enemy forces has been reported in the area several miles north of Kasan.

East Sector

The ROK 8th Division drove a small enemy force supported by tanks from the key communications town of Yongchon. Heavy fighting is still reported in this area. Task Force Church (formerly designated as Task Force Jackson) continues to attempt to stabilize the still confused situation in the Kyongju-Pohang area. The 21st Regiment of the US 24th Division, supported by the 19th Regiment, attacked north and northwest of Kyongju against strong enemy resistance. Elements of the ROK Capital Division made an initial gain of 2,000 yards north toward Angang, but were repulsed by a strong enemy counterattack. An enemy attack on the ROK 3rd Division 3,000 yards south of Pohang was repulsed with the aid of naval fire.

Navy

UN naval action was limited to close support of ground troops, patrolling of the east and west coasts, and strikes in west central Korea by carrier based planes.

Air

UN air units executed close support missions and continued interdiction of enemy lines of communication. A B-29 attack was made on the light metals plant and the railroad yards in the North Korean east coast city of Songjin.

II. General Situation

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

9 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

The enemy made no significant gains in the past 24 hours. The situation remains serious, however, with heavy enemy pressure continuing, particularly in the Yongchon-Kyongju area.

Naval forces provided artillery support of UN forces opposing an enemy advance in the east sector, and east and west coastal patrols were maintained.

While bad weather limited US air forces to 245 sorties, the lowest since mid-July, B-29s bombed industrial and railroad targets in North Korea.

South Sector

The US 27th Regiment repulsed three enemy attacks, one of which was described as a "banzai" attack, the first so far reported in the Korean war. The US 5th Regiment successfully repulsed a frontal attack, but was being harassed in the rear by infiltrating groups. Although the remainder of the sector remained fairly quiet, constant probing patrols and rear area road movements indicated the possibility of further heavy attacks in the Chinju-Masan area. In the northern portion of the sector, west of Changnyong, an enemy attack in battalion strength made slight gains, but was contained by the US 38th Regiment. Despite the withdrawal of some enemy troops to the west bank of the Nakdong River in several bridgehead areas, the enemy has improved the Hyongpung bridgehead and appears able to renew strong attacks in the US 2nd Division zone.

Center Sector

The US 7th Cavalry Regiment repulsed an attack of estimated battalion strength northeast of Waegwan. The US 8th Cavalry Regiment, however,

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was forced by the enemy, probably in regimental strength, to withdraw from the ridge previously gained in the vicinity of Kasan mountain. A large enemy force of unknown strength has been reported moving south toward the Kasan region, possibly indicating greater enemy strength than the four divisions known to be in the Waegwan area. To the east, the ROK 1st and 6th Divisions held the lines against heavy enemy pressure.

East Sector

The situation in the Yongchon-Kyongju area remains fluid. Enemy tank-supported troops entered the city of Yongchon and were driven out, but at latest report had re-entered the city. The North Korean forces hold a railroad station less than four miles southeast of Yongchon. The hostile advances in this area have caused an extension of UN lines around the enemy salient, and a consequent thinning out of forces. Moreover, it appears that only a portion of the North Korean 15th Division has been utilized in the action thus far, with the remainder still in reserve.

In the Angang-Kyongju corridor, no enemy gains have been reported. ROK units made slight withdrawals to the northeast of Kyongju, in the line extending toward Pohang. Yonil airfield is still held by elements of the US 9th Regiment.

Navy

Shelling and night illumination missions were executed by UN naval forces off the east coast in the Pohang area in support of the ground troops. Artillery support was also provided in the south sector, and east and west coast patrols were maintained. A west coast patrol reported mines in the waters off Chinnampo.

AIR

UN air forces were limited by bad weather to 245 sorties, only 126 of which were combat missions, the lowest number since mid-July. B-29s, however, had better weather over North Korea and succeeded in bombing the Chosen Nitrogen Explosive Company at Haefu, with good to excellent results reported. Other successful bombing attacks were made against the main rail line between Seoul and Pyongyang.

II. General Situation

According to unofficial reports, the South Korea National Assembly voted on 8 September to ask the UN Security Council for a general offensive against the North Korean "before harvest time." An Assembly resolution noted "with grave concern" that crops in Communist-held areas may be lost unless UN forces retake the granary of Korea before the September harvest.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

11 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

North Korean action during the past 48 hours was characterized by small scale probing attacks along most of the front. Enemy troops made small gains north and west of Taegu, and penetrated defense positions south of UN-held Yonil airfield below Pohang. In the Yongchon area, however, ROK troops reported considerable gains. UN naval aircraft struck hard at defensive installations on islands in Inchon harbor, and other air units stepped up their attack against lines of communication throughout Korea.

Ground Forces

South Sector. The US 25th Division continued to hold its positions west of Masan against small probing attacks by elements of the enemy 6th and 7th Divisions. Further to the north, the US 2nd Division repulsed an enemy attack in regimental strength without loss of position, but the enemy is reported building up strength on the east side of the Naktong River in the Hyonpung area.

Center Sector. Heavy enemy pressure forced elements of the US 1st Cavalry Division to withdraw from 300 to 1,000 yards north and west of Taegu. The ROK 1st and 6th Divisions continued to hold their positions north of Sinnyong against light enemy attacks.

East Sector. Elements of the North Korean 15th Division which were forced back several miles from the Yongchon-Kyongju road by the ROK 8th Division, lost two tanks, several guns, and numerous small arms in disorganized retreat. Brisk but indecisive fighting continues north of Kyongju and south of Pohang. UN forces appear to be in firm control of Kyongju, but the UN position around Yonil is being threatened by an enemy penetration south of the airfield.

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UN naval units continued to support ground troops in the Pohang area and in the area west of Masan with harassing and interdictive bombardment. A UN naval patrol on the east coast to latitude 40° north used a helicopter to spot and control fire on land targets. The same patrol sank two enemy patrol craft and damaged four others. Naval aircraft severely damaged defensive installations on islands guarding the inner approach to Inchon harbor on the west coast.

Air Force

UN aircraft stepped up the interdiction of communications, striking in force against railroads, bridges, tunnels, marshalling yards, and highways in both North and South Korea.

II. General Situation

The South Korean Assembly voted overwhelmingly on 6 September to request President Rhee to dismiss Prime Minister-Defense Minister Sin Sungmo and Home Minister Chough Pyung Ok. The President is expected to refuse the request.

The attack on Chough is based on his alleged violation of constitutional immunities in the arrest of an Assemblyman for undercover Communist activity and the subsequent refusal to release him. Rhee and Chough maintain that it is dangerous to release a Communist agent during the hostilities regardless of immunities.

The Assembly's feeling against Sin is stronger and its causes more complex. The feeling derives from Sin's alleged unbending foreign ways, personal jealousies of prominent politicians, and the lobbying of two important South Korean generals who have been relieved for cause on General Walker's order.

The US Embassy considers both Sin and Chough to be doing outstanding jobs. ROK assembly leaders appear impressed by the Embassy's confidential indications that a domestic quarrel would have serious external effects at this time but whether these leaders will take steps to prevent an acrimonious legislative-executive battle is not known.

Radio Pyongyang has announced the death in action on 8 September of Lt. General Kang Kun, North Korean Chief of Staff and occupant of several important political posts.

DM-96

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

12 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

All sectors of the front have remained relatively quiet during the past 24 hours. The enemy made minor attacks in the south and center sectors. UN forces continued to advance in the east sector. Naval units of the UN forces engaged in patrolling and provided close support. UN air forces flew 665 sorties, a record number, of which 463 were combat attacks.

Ground

South Sector. The US 35th Regiment repulsed four enemy attacks. The US 24th Regiment repulsed a minor attack, suffering no damage. Along the Nakdong River in the Changnyong-Hyonpung area, the US 23rd and 38th Regiments also repulsed minor attacks.

Center Sector. An exchange of fighting in the Waegwan-Kasan area resulted in slight gains for the US 7th Cavalry Regiment, and a slight withdrawal by the US 8th Cavalry Regiment. The enemy continued heavy pressure against the ROK 1st Division's left flank, but ROK forces maintained their positions in this area.

East Sector. The advance of the ROK 8th Division against the North Korean 15th Division continued, with the ROK division advancing approximately 6,000 yards in the Yongchon area. Other UN forces in the Kyongju-Pohang area made slight gains against the enemy penetration near Yonil airfield.

Rear Areas. Elements of North Korean security troops which have been reported in Yongdok, Ulchin, Yonghae, and Samchok, on the east coast, are apparently engaged in establishing coastal defenses. A convoy of an undetermined number of vehicles was reported moving along the Pyongyang-Seoul road, and another convoy of 100 to 150 vehicles was reported moving south on the road from Hamchang to Sangju.

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Navy

The UN east coast patrol fired support missions in the Pohang area, while other units provided close support fire in the south sector. West coast patrol units reported additional mines in the west coast waters.

Air Forces

A record number of sorties, totalling 665, was flown by UN aircraft. Of the 463 combat sorties, 386 were close support missions. Other air activity included a B-29 mission which bombed an ammunition storage dump near Pyongyang with excellent results.

II. General Situation

The Republic of Korea is sending a six-man delegation to attend the fall session of the United Nations General Assembly. Initially, the National Assembly had voted to send a three-man delegation independently of the executive, but the delegation finally selected represents a compromise between the choices of President Rhee and the Assembly. ROK Foreign Minister Ben C. Limb and the ROK Ambassador to the US, John Chang, will lead the delegation.

DM-97

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

422940

13 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation.

I. Military Situation

Summary

UN forces continued to advance in the east sector against light to moderate enemy resistance; other sectors were generally quiet. Naval units of the UN patrolled both coasts, executed fire missions, and made carrier air strikes against inland targets. UN air forces continued close support missions and accentuated the interdiction program against enemy facilities.

Ground

South Sector. The US 25th Division repulsed one light attack and dispersed an enemy patrol. The US 2nd Division continued the defense of the Yongsan-Hyonpung area, eliminating small enemy pockets in the rear.

Center Sector. The British 27th Brigade continued the defense of the left flank of the US 1st Cavalry Division zone. The US 5th Cavalry Regiment withdrew slightly, while the 7th Cavalry Regiment consolidated slight gains. The ROK 1st and 6th Divisions continued the defense of their zones.

East Sector. The ROK 8th Division made slight gains north-east of Yongchon. The ROK Capital Division is reorganizing and preparing to attack after making small gains. Other UN forces farther to the east also made some advances against light resistance.

Navy

Naval units continued to patrol the east and west coast, provided fire support in the south and east sectors, and made carrier air strikes against inland targets.

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Air Forces

UN air forces continued close support missions. The program of interdiction against enemy facilities has been accentuated; strikes were made against marshalling yards, railroad junctions, bridges, and military targets in cities and towns.

II. General Situation

No significant developments have been reported during the past 24 hours.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

422966

14 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

Enemy ground action during the period was confined to patrolling and intermittent artillery firing and there were no significant changes in the front lines. Typhoon conditions in Japan and Korea severely restricted air operations, but UN naval surface and air units succeeded in making heavy attacks against installations in the Inchon port area.

Ground

South Sector. The US 25th Division continued to defend the Masan area against small-scale enemy patrol actions, and was meeting stiff enemy resistance in attempting to wipe out a pocket of 300 enemy troops behind the front lines. Further to the north, the US 2nd Division continued the defense of the Yongsan-Hyongpung area.

Center Sector. The US 1st Cavalry Division continued to hold its positions west and north of Taegu. A screening force was active against small elements of the North Korean 10th Division southwest of Taegu near Hyongpung. The ROK 15th Regiment reported a gain of 1,000 yards against light enemy resistance in the vicinity of the walled city on Kasan mountain ten miles north of Taegu.

East Sector. UN forces made slight gains northeast of Yongchon and north of Kyongju.

Navy

UN ships and naval aircraft bombarded installations in the harbor area at Inchon on the Korean west coast. Three US destroyers in the bombardment received hits from enemy shore batteries and one destroyer suffered considerable damage.

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Air

Typhoon conditions restricted air activity over Japan and Korea to a total of 240 effective sorties.

II. General Situation

No significant developments have been reported in the past 24 hours.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

422292

15 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

Following two days of preparatory bombardment by UN naval forces, elements of the US 1st Marine Division landed on Wolmi-do, an island in Inchon harbor, early in the morning of 15 September, Korean time (late in the afternoon of 14 September, EST). On the next high tide, US Marines landed in Inchon city. Initial enemy opposition has been light. Meanwhile, ROK units, also supported by UN naval bombardment, landed on the east coast north of Pohang. In southeast Korea there was little change in the front lines.

Ground

Inchon Area: Elements of the US 1st Marine Division, US Army Tenth Corps, secured the island of Wolmi-do in Inchon harbor with a minimum of casualties in only an hour and a half. The enemy appeared to have been taken by surprise, and 80 North Koreans, who were reported to have surrendered willingly, were taken prisoner. Late in the afternoon of 15 September, Korean time, additional landings by Marine units were made on the beach of Inchon city. Light enemy opposition on the beachhead was rapidly overcome.

Southeast Korea: Enemy patrols were active along the southern sector west of Haman and in the Naktong bridgehead west of Yongsan and Changyong, but there was no significant change in the front lines. In the Taegu area of the center sector, elements of the US 1st Cavalry Division made slight gains and secured favorable terrain features along the front. Northeast of Taegu elements of the ROK 1st Division captured a hill position two miles east of the walled city on Kasan mountain. In the east sector, UN elements have continued their slow advance, and now control the town of Angang and the secondary road from Angang to Yongchon. Press reports indicate that a landing by ROK units has been made north of Pohang on the east coast, probably in the Yengdok area.

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Navy

UN naval units and carrier based aircraft completed two days preparatory bombardment of defensive installations in the Inchon area and gave intensive support to landing operations by the US 1st Marine Division. Other carrier-based aircraft patrolled the west coast from Mokpo to Kunsan, and the Yellow Sea north of Inchon. Enemy defenses on the southern extremity of the Ongjin Peninsula at Tungsan-got were shelled by UN surface craft. UN naval units also continued to provide gunfire support for ground units in the Pohang and Masan areas.

Air

Improved weather permitted an increase in air operations. The interdiction of enemy supply routes north of the 38th parallel was stepped-up with medium and light bombers attacking the main rail line between Pyongyang and the Yalu River.

II. General Situation

Radio Pyongyang reaction to UN landings at Inchon was prompt. Prior to any official UN announcement of the landings, the North Korean radio claimed that North Korean forces had repulsed a landing and that shore batteries shelled UN warships, sinking three destroyers, four landing craft and other vessels. Somewhat later, US 8th Army Headquarters in Korea picked up a Pyongyang broadcast acknowledging the invasion at Inchon, and stating that UN forces had advanced half the 22 miles inland to Seoul.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

16 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military SituationSummary

Approximately 17,000 UN personnel are now ashore at Inchon. Elements of the US 1st Marine Division have advanced to positions three miles east of Inchon, astride the Seoul road. Along the front in southeast Korea, slight gains have been made by UN forces in attacks from Chindong to Yongchon. UN naval surface and carrier air units supported ground troops in the Inchon-Seoul area while surface units bombarded the east coast in support of ROK marines who landed on the east coast north of Pohang.

Ground

Inchon Area. The attack by the US Tenth Corps is gaining momentum. The city of Inchon has been secured, and ROK forces have been charged with the maintenance of internal security and the establishment of a government for Inchon. Meanwhile elements of the US 1st Marine Division have advanced three miles east of Inchon along the road to Seoul. Approximately 17,000 troops, with tanks and 155mm. howitzers, have been put ashore at Inchon. The local North Korean security forces were quickly overcome. Enemy units attempting to converge on Inchon with additional support have been attacked by UN naval aircraft which destroyed 200 vehicles and an undetermined number of tanks.

Southeast Korea. Along the 90-mile front from Chindong in the south to Yongchon in the north, UN forces took the offensive, and made slight overall gains against enemy resistance varying from light to heavy. UN forces made slight gains in the south sector from Chindong to Hyonpung, reached the east bank of the Nakdong River below Waegwan, and entered Angang in the east. Patrols of the ROK 3rd Division, however, on the extreme east sector, were repulsed by withering small arms fire. ROK marines have landed on the east coast north of Pohang.

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Rear Areas. Air observers reported approximately 50 vehicles and 20 tanks moving south below Antung (near the northeast Korea-Manchurian border). In the Seoul area, UN naval air reconnaissance flights reported several thousand troops dressed in white moving in the direction of Inchon.

Navy

UN naval vessels supported ground troops on both coasts with artillery fire, while carrier air units struck at enemy forces attempting to converge on Inchon. The Command Post of the US Tenth Army Corps has been established afloat off Inchon.

Air Forces

Air forces made strikes against marshalling yards and storage facilities near the southeastern battle zone at Taejon, Andong, and Chonju. Other units assisted in neutralizing enemy resistance against the ROK marine landings on the east coast. Bad weather prevented planned strikes by heavy bombers in the Waegwan area, but other heavy bomber units struck secondary targets at Pyongyang and Wonsan, where marshalling yards and dock areas were hit with excellent results.

II. General Situation

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

18 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

The US 1st Marine Division has expanded the Inchon beachhead, capturing Kimpo airfield to the northeast and approaching within two miles of the main rail line running south from Seoul to Suwon. Marine fighter aircraft have landed at Kimpo, the best airfield in southern Korea, and the engineers state the field is in condition to handle any type of aircraft. In the southeastern beachhead enemy resistance continues, and there is no indication yet of a general break-up in enemy resistance or a withdrawal to the north.

Ground

Inchon Sector. The US 1st Marine Division has secured Kimpo airfield against light opposition by elements of the North Korean 18th Division. Enemy resistance is stiffening on the flanks of the Marine beachhead, but the US 7th Division is now landing at Inchon to reinforce the UN position.

Southeastern Sector. Although UN forces made gains on some parts of the front, particularly in the north and in the US 2nd Division sector along the Nakdong River, enemy resistance remained stiff west of Masan and north of Taegu. The US 25th Division repulsed several company-size attacks west of Masan and met stiff resistance in attempting to restore positions lost in previous action. The US 2nd Division met stubborn enemy resistance west of Yongsan, but elements of the Division pushed toward the Nakdong River below Hyonpung and captured numerous headquarters personnel of the enemy 17th Regiment, 2nd Division. Enemy resistance was also stiff in the US 1st Cavalry Division sector west and north of Taegu, and there was little change in the front lines. Enemy resistance was generally light along the northern section of the perimeter and ROK units made gains of up to 5,000 yards.

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Navy

Marine units in the Inchon area have now advanced inland to the extreme limits of naval gunfire, but UN ships off Inchon continue to support the flanks of the beachhead. Carrier-based aircraft are providing close support for advanced ground elements. UN naval units continued to bombard the enemy in Pohang.

Air

Bad weather continued to hamper air operations, but close ground support was provided UN troops around the entire southeastern perimeter. Medium bombers were diverted to attack enemy troops concentrations west of Waegwan.

II. General Situation

North Korean radio broadcasts have ignored the new UN landing at Inchon except for the initial comment that on 15 September naval shore batteries of the People's Armed Forces repulsed one enemy destroyer off Inchon.

Meanwhile, Ambassador Muccio stressed the urgency of early steps to rebuild schools in recaptured South Korean territory. Both sides have used the buildings for military purposes and many schools have been destroyed. Muccio points out that reestablishing the school system will be necessary to develop a democratic society, to raise the morale of the general populace, and to prevent the growth of anti-US feeling after the elation of the return home wears off.

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19 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military SituationSummary

UN forces, spearheaded by the US 1st Marine Division, which is meeting increased resistance from two regiments of the North Korean 18th Division west of the Han River, are continuing to advance past Kimpo airfield and along the main highway from Inchon to Seoul. ROK Marines advanced north of Inchon to protect the UN left flank; elements of the US 7th Division are moving southeast of Inchon to protect the right flank. Air observer reports of enemy troop movements toward Seoul from the south indicate the possibility of increased enemy resistance in the area. In southeastern Korea, the enemy held firm northwest of Taegu across the main lines of march from Taegu toward Taejon. Resistance slackened in the sectors east and south of Taegu, however, and UN forces are advancing in these areas.

Ground

Inchon Front: Numerous enemy counter-attacks against the US Marines on Kimpo airfield have been repulsed, and the Marines have pushed on to the west bank of the Han River northeast of Kimpo airfield. ROK Marines have pushed approximately five miles north of Inchon against light enemy resistance to secure the UN left flank. Elements of the US 7th Division, supported by tanks, are moving southeast from Inchon to secure the right flank and to cut the roads leading south from Seoul to Suwon and Taejon. Enemy reinforcements moving toward Seoul from Suwon and Taejon are under heavy attack by UN air forces.

Southeastern Front: In the southern sector west of Masan, the US 25th Division is meeting stiff resistance from the enemy 6th Division but a US advance is underway on both flanks. Further to the north, elements of the US 2nd Division cleared out a stubborn enemy strong point east of the Nakdong River, while other elements of the Division expanded the bridgehead on the west bank of the Nakdong to a depth of over a mile. Air observer reports indicate a movement of enemy troops to the rear in this sector. Enemy resistance continues firm northwest of Taegu, but elements of the US

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24th Division, moving in to support the US 1st Cavalry Division, have secured a bridgehead across the Nakdong River due west of Taegu. ROK units are pushing forward all along the north sector of the perimeter against enemy resistance which varies from light to moderate. ROK troops have entered the hotly contested walled city on Kasan mountain 12 miles north of Taegu, and have advanced across a swollen river south of Pohang to within 500 yards of the rubble port city.

Navy

UN naval forces, supporting the Inchon beachhead, have landed over 28,000 men, 14,883 vehicles, and 14,173 tons of supplies. Carrier-based planes are providing close ground support and interdicting the movement of enemy reinforcements toward Seoul from the north and south.

Air

Improved weather permitted UN air forces to fly 561 effective sorties. Forty B-29's saturated a two square mile area of enemy-held territory west of the Nakdong River in support of UN ground forces below Waegwan.

II. General Situation

Radio Pyongyang broadcast on 15 September that the Praesidium of the Supreme People's Assembly had announced the release of "Comrade" Ho Song Tack from his post as North Korean Minister of Labor. No reason for the discharge was specified. This is the first known dismissal of a high-ranking North Korean official since the outbreak of hostilities.

The press carried reports of a brief ceremony in Inchon when Pyo Hak Mun (jailed for 70 days during the Communist administration) was reinstalled as mayor of the city by the South Koreans.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

20 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

UN forces in strength have crossed the Han River west of Seoul. In the southeast, UN troops have established another bridgehead across the Nakdong River, and are strengthening the previously gained bridgeheads. UN forces have recaptured the Walled City and east coast port city of Pohang. Naval and air force units are continuing close support and interdiction missions.

Ground

Inchon Front. Elements of the US 1st Marine Division have crossed the Han River west of Seoul in strength, while other elements have engaged enemy forces south of the river. The ROK marines on the left flank have encountered troops of the North Korean 107th Security Regiment. Kimpo airfield is in use.

Southeastern Front. In the south sector, the US 35th and 27th Regiments on the flanks have made advances, but strong enemy resistance held back the US 24th Regiment in the center west of Haman. The US 23rd Regiment of the 2nd Division further to the north established another bridgehead across the Nakdong River west of Yongsan, while the 38th Regiment consolidated the crossing west of Changnyong. The UK 27th Brigade repulsed two small scale enemy attacks near Hyonpung. The US 24th Division reinforced the bridgehead across the Nakdong due west of Taegu. The US 1st Cavalry Division northwest of Taegu made slight gains against strong enemy resistance, and elements of the division advanced to Waegwan. ROK forces along the north sector recaptured the Walled City, and advanced generally along the line from Kasan to Pohang. In the east sector, ROK forces re-entered Pohang, and gained high ground overlooking Kigye.

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Navy

Carrier-based naval and marine aircraft flew 191 sorties, providing close support for ground troops and attacking enemy transportation facilities, vehicles, and troop concentrations in the vicinity of Seoul. UN surface vessels maintained the west coast blockade. On the east coast north of Pohang the ROK marines were evacuated from the beached LST by life rafts through heavy surf; some ROK personnel refused the life raft journey, and chanced an escape south through the enemy lines.

Air

Kimpo airfield is in operation, and cargo planes have already flown 215 tons of supplies into the field. Other air force units flew 357 combat sorties in support of the UN troops on the southeastern front. Bombers continued strikes against rail lines, marshalling yards, troop barracks, and other military targets, concentrating on those most immediately affecting the enemy's attempts to reinforce troops in the Seoul area from the north.

II. General Situation

North Korean communiques continue to minimize the seriousness of the Inchon landings and to claim that counterattacks are underway to destroy the beachhead. Although Radio Pyongyang has admitted actions that UN forces have taken the offensive in southeastern Korea in recent days, the broadcasts continue to claim success for Communist arms in this area. The North Korean people have not yet been informed by the Communists that the UN landings at Inchon may necessitate a North Korean withdrawal from southern Korea.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

21 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

Although UN forces are building pressure against Seoul and large numbers of North Korean troops are reportedly moving to the defense of that city, no major changes have occurred on the two front. In the Inchon area, the US 1st Marine Division continued to rush men and supplies across the Han River, but met stiff resistance in the advance toward Seoul. Although enemy resistance is weakening in the southeastern front, there is no firm indication of a general withdrawal. Carrier-based planes took over the entire support mission near Seoul as UN troops advanced beyond naval gunfire range. UN air forces flew a new record number of sorties, totalling 698.

Ground

Inchon Front. Enemy resistance is increasing east of the Han River, where the US 1st Marine Division is encountering a heavy network of land mines and prepared defense positions. The ROK marines and elements of the US 7th Division are patrolling the flanks of the UN advance toward Seoul.

Southeastern Front. Enemy resistance is weakening on all sectors of the front, but there is no firm indication yet of a general withdrawal. The principal advances by UN forces were made along the Nakdong River, where the US 8th Regiment succeeded in establishing another bridgehead just north of the junction of the Nakdong and Nam rivers. The US 23rd and 38th Regiments are consolidating their positions west of the Nakdong along the Changnyong-Hyongpung sector. The Taegu-Waegwan road has been opened, but the US 1st Cavalry Division has been impeded in the advance north by enemy minefields south and southwest of Tabu. Limited gains were made along the north sector from the Walled City area to Pohang.

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Navy

UN troops in the Inchon-Seoul area have advanced beyond naval gunfire range, but carrier-based planes are executing close support missions. Including missions flown in the south sector near Chinju, naval aircraft flew a total of 274 sorties. Surface vessels maintained the blockade of the west coast, and patrolled the east coast.

Air

UN air forces flew a record number of sorties, reaching a total of 698, of which 478 were combat attacks. Cargo planes flew into the Kimpo airfield 394 tons of supplies and 188 passengers. Most of the military and industrial targets in Korea have been neutralized, but 60 B-29's were despatched to attack road and rail lines, and to interdict the movement of personnel and supplies by the enemy.

II. General Situation

No significant reports have been received within the past 24 hours.

DM-105

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

22 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation.

I. Military Situation

Summary

Hard fighting continues between the North Korean defenders of Seoul and the US Marines on the western outskirts of the city and in the industrial suburb of Yongdungpo on the southern side of the Han River. US Army units have secured the town of Suwon nearly 20 miles south of Seoul. In southeastern Korea, UN forces have made substantial gains in several sectors, but even though enemy resistance is slackening on some fronts, there is no evidence of a general enemy withdrawal or disintegration.

Ground

Seoul Area. Heavy enemy resistance continues in the Seoul suburb of Yongdungpo on the south bank of the Han River, and Marines on the north bank are meeting stiff enemy resistance on the northwestern outskirts of Seoul. The occupation of Suwon by US 7th Division troops on the main north-south highway and railroad 20 miles south of Seoul, combined with the Marine position across the railroad northwest of Seoul, leaves only one other route from south-central Korea open to enemy reinforcements attempting to enter the city.

Southeastern Area. On the front near Masan, the US 25th Division pushed forward up to 8,000 yards toward Chinju against light enemy opposition, but stiff enemy resistance prevented forward movement of the Division's southern flank. Further to the north in the US 2nd Division zone, accurate enemy mortar and artillery fire forced the US 9th RCT to withdraw to the east bank of the Nakdong River. Other elements of the 2nd Division expanded their bridgeheads west of the Nakdong against moderate to heavy enemy resistance. In the Taegu area, UN elements are within two miles of Songju and US 1st Cavalry units have pushed five miles northwest of Waegwan on the main road to Kumchon. Other elements of the 1st Cavalry Division gained 12,000 yards north of Tabu-dong, passing through Hajang-dong without meeting enemy opposition. ROK units mopped up enemy pockets in the Walled City north of Taegu, captured Uihung, and advanced several miles north of Pohang on the east coast to the town of Hunghae.

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Navy

UN carrier-based aircraft continue to provide close support to UN ground forces in the Seoul area and to strike at enemy transportation facilities in west central Korea. UN naval units supported the advancing ground units north of Pohang and west of Masan in the southeastern area.

Air

Good weather permitted another day of maximum air support by UN air forces. Close coordination was achieved with ground units in a concentrated attack against an estimated 30 enemy tanks and self-propelled guns in the Songju area west of Taegu.

II. General Situation

Radio Pyongyang reports that more than 800,000 youths in North Korea have enlisted in the People's Armed Forces while more than 400,000 in the occupied southern area have enlisted in the volunteer corps. The broadcast did not enlarge upon the state of training or present disposition of these enlistees.

DM-106

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

23 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

The build-up of supplies and personnel is continuing in the UN beach-head in the Incheon-Seoul area as stubborn resistance by enemy elements in prepared positions in Yongdongpo slowed the advance on Seoul. In south-eastern Korea, the enemy continued to resist stubbornly in some sectors, but it is clear that some troops are being withdrawn to the north and others are faced with a shortage of supplies. The US 8th Army advanced on all fronts with the most significant gain taking elements on the US 1st Cavalry Division to within 7 miles of Sangju on the principal alternate road to Seoul.

Ground

Seoul Area. There was little change in the front lines in the Incheon-Seoul area as the US 1st Marine Division continued to encounter bitter resistance from enemy units in prepared positions in Yongdongpo. Other Marine units were encountering determined resistance in the northwestern outskirts of Seoul, but US 7th Division patrols operating from Suwon encountered only light and scattered resistance along the road to Seoul 20 miles to the north.

Southeastern Area. Elements of the US 25th Division overcame moderate to heavy resistance and advanced westward to within 7 miles of Chinju. Extensive land mine fields covered by artillery fire are being encountered. Further to the north, the southern flank of the US 2nd Division continued to receive heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire, but the center and north flank of the Division moved further west of the Nakdong River, capturing the crossroad towns of Chogye and Sinban-ri and pushing to within 5 miles of the town of Hyopchon. Elements of the US 24th Division and the 27 UK Brigade advanced approximately 5 miles along the main highway from Taegu northwest to within 7 miles of Kumchon. Elements of the 1st Cavalry Division advanced north of Taegu, to within 7 miles of Sangju on the principal alternate highway from southern Korea to Seoul. In the northern sector, ROK troops pushed forward and one spearhead entered Uisong on the main highway leading to Andong and west-central Korea. On the east coast ROK troops are now 10 miles north of Pohang.

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Navy

UN carrier-based aircraft continue to provide close support to UN ground forces in the Seoul-Inchon area and to harass enemy troops attempting to move north to reinforce the Seoul garrison. UN naval units patrolled the east and west coasts of Korea and provided fire support for the ROK troops advancing north of Pohang on the east coast road.

Air

UN aircraft provided close support for UN troops in southeastern Korea and assisted the US 24th Division in destroying 5 tanks west of Waegwan.

II. General Situation

No significant developments have been reported during the past 24 hours.

DM-107

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military SituationSummary

US Marines, heavily engaged in the northern outskirts of Seoul by a determined enemy resisting stubbornly from prepared positions, advanced only 750 yards during the past 24 hours. In the southern section of the city, a regiment of the US 7th Division has crossed the Han River and penetrated 2,000 yards. Other elements of the 7th Division patrolling south of Suwon are within 45 miles of a link-up with advanced patrols of the US 1st Cavalry Division which were last reported in the city of Chongju. The disintegration of the North Korean perimeter in the southeast was accelerated over the weekend with major UN advances on all fronts. While small isolated enemy pockets continued to resist in widely separated areas, air observation indicates increased enemy troop movement to the north and northwest from the southeastern battle zone.

Ground

Seoul Area. Four enemy regiments stiffened their resistance in the northern outskirts of Seoul and limited US Marine advances to 750 yards. The 32nd Regiment of the US 7th Division crossed the Han River from the south and advanced 2,000 yards into the city against moderate resistance. The Inchon beachhead was reinforced by the landing of elements of the 187th Regiment of the US 11th Airborne Division and the 17th Regiment of the ROK Capital Division. The 31st Regiment of the US 7th Division, patrolling south of Suwon, engaged small enemy concentrations.

Southeastern Area. The disintegration of the enemy's perimeter was hastened over the weekend by major UN advances on all fronts. The US 25th Division, encountering decreasing resistance along the south coast, was reported in the outskirts of Chinju. The 2nd Division advancing westward across the Naktong encountered stiff enemy resistance in the area of Hyopchon, but continued forward to the north of that city. The US 24th Division also was heavily engaged by enemy rear guard action in the vicinity of Kumchon. The breakthrough of the 7th Cavalry Regiment of the US 1st Cavalry Division enabled a reinforced company to penetrate northward to the

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key city of Chongju, only 45 airline miles from the southernmost patrols from the Inchon beachhead. The capture of the North Korean supply center of Andong by a regiment of the ROK 8th Division, and the ROK 3rd Division's advance to the town of Yongdok on the east coast were symptomatic of the breakup of the North Korean effort in this area. Air observation confirms heavy enemy movement to the north and northwest from the southeastern battle zone.

Navy

UN carrier-based aircraft continued close support of UN ground forces in the Seoul area and interdiction of lines of communication in west central Korea. UN naval units fired close support missions for rapidly advancing ROK units along the east coast and supported ground efforts in the Seoul area.

Air

A new high in sorties was achieved by UN air forces with a total of 728 (432 combat). Effective close support was provided advancing ground units along the southeastern perimeter. Retreating North Korean columns were strafed. B-29's concentrated on interdiction of lines of communication and general military targets. Road and rail communications into Seoul were cut in 30 places by air action.

II. General Situation

No significant developments were reported during the past 48 hours.

DM-108

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

26 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

Seoul has been captured by UN forces. A house-to-house search is being conducted within the city to eliminate remaining enemy resistance. Along the old Pusan perimeter, UN forces continued to advance against only scattered resistance from the retreating enemy.

Ground

Seoul Area. Enemy forces estimated to number 2,000 men began a retreat northeast from Seoul on the afternoon of 25 September (Korean time) and only pockets of enemy resistance were encountered on 26 September (Korean time) as US Marines, US Army, and ROK troops gained control of the capital of the Republic of Korea.

Southeast Area. Along the old Pusan perimeter, enemy forces offered moderate resistance in scattered areas from Chinju north to Kumchon. Practically no enemy opposition was encountered by the US 1st Cavalry Division in its advance to within 40 miles of the Inchon beachhead. ROK troops moving north to Hamchang, Yechon and ten miles beyond Yongdok also met little enemy opposition. Other UN forces captured Kumchon and advanced in the direction of Yongdong against moderate enemy resistance. US troops operating west of the Nakdong River have captured Kochang and Chinju. Enemy troops in the Chinju area are reported to be changing into civilian clothing.

Navy

A US destroyer on patrol off the northeast coast of Korea was damaged, presumably by a mine. There have been no previous reports of enemy mining activity on the east coast, although a number of Soviet-type mines have been spotted in the Inchon area on the west coast.

Air

Twenty B-29's visually bombed the Pujon-gang hydro-electric plant, a principal source of power for the Hwangnam chemical industry. UN fighter-bomber pilots killed 1,400 enemy in the southeastern area.

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II. General Situation

US Ambassador Luccio reports from Pusan that President Rhee may appoint as Korean Premier the present Korean Ambassador to Washington. Sin Sungmo, currently Defense Minister and Acting Prime Minister has long been a target of leading Korean politicians who covet the Premiership. Korean Ambassador Chang is one of the few able Koreans who would be acceptable to the President and the National Assembly as Premier.

DM-109

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

27 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military SituationSummary

Bitter resistance by small pockets of enemy troops in Seoul is causing heavy destruction to buildings in the capital. Elements of the US 1st Cavalry Division, driving northwest from Taegu, have linked up with elements of the US 7th Division in the Osan area south of Suwon. All units of the US 8th Army continued to advance west and north from southeastern Korea against scattered light to moderate resistance.

Ground

UN troops in the city of Seoul are still meeting stiff resistance from remaining enemy pockets entrenched in buildings and behind street barricades. Four hundred UN prisoners of war have been liberated in Seoul. South of Seoul in the Suwon area a US patrol engaged an estimated enemy company supported by two tanks, and there are further indications of a build-up by enemy troops in the Suwon area, probably enemy forces withdrawing from southwestern Korea. All US 8th Army troops advanced against scattered light to moderate resistance north and west from southeastern Korea. ROK troops have entered the east coast town of Ulsin, near the 37th parallel, and the town of Chunyang approximately 30 miles inland from Ulsin. Advanced elements of the US 1st Cavalry Division have linked up with troops from the Inchon beachhead at Osan, ten miles south of Suwon. US 24th Division troops advancing along the main Taegu-Taejon highway entered Yongdong against light enemy resistance and are continuing to advance toward Taejon. Elements of the US 2nd Division met moderate enemy resistance during their advance westward from Kochang to Anui. Blown bridges, mine-fields, and stiffening enemy resistance limited progress of the US 25th Division beyond Chinju towards Hadong on the southern coast. Rear elements of UN forces in southeastern Korea are engaged in mopping-up enemy pockets cut off by the rapid progress of advanced spearheads.

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Navy

UN carrier-based aircraft flew 420 sorties in support of ground units and attacked enemy transport routes around Seoul. A UN naval task force composed of destroyers, carrier aircraft and a cruiser conducted a heavy bombardment of enemy defense installations at Tungsan-got, on the southern tip of the Onjin peninsula.

Air

UN air forces continued to support advancing UN troops and harassed enemy groups moving north from the battle areas of southeast Korea.

II. General Situation

Radio Pyongyang has broadcast a recent speech by North Korean Premier Kim Il Sung in which the Premier denounces the "enemy" for trying to disturb the rear areas by utilizing spies and scaremongers. This "line" represents an innovation in North Korean propaganda and is the first Communist reference to possible internal disaffection.

DM-110

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

28 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

UN forces in the Seoul area continue to eliminate bitterly resisting enemy pockets in the northwestern outskirts of Seoul while reinforced enemy units halted the northward attack of US airborne troops on the Kimpo peninsula west of Seoul. In the southeastern area, the enemy has concentrated forces in Taejon for a determined defense of that town (press reports indicate the fall of the town after a bitter battle in the eastern approaches). ROK forces are continuing a rapid advance along the mountainous central and eastern front. Naval support by gunfire and carrier strikes continued in the Seoul area. UN air activity was limited by adverse weather and the lack of suitable targets.

Ground

Although major enemy units have evacuated the city of Seoul, enemy pockets continue to resist in the northern and northwestern outskirts of the city. An enemy attack against the 7th Marine Regiment made a slight penetration in the northwest section of Seoul, but a US counter-attack later in the day restored the positions. On the Kimpo peninsula near the Kimpo airfield, reinforced enemy units halted the northward advance of elements of the 187th Airborne Regiment. An enemy attack in battalion strength against the Suwon-Osan road was repulsed by the 31st Regiment of the US 7th Division. Prisoners taken in this engagement were from the North Korean 13th Division, previously reported just north of Taegu.

In the expanding southeastern battle zone, a regiment of the US 25th Division made an unopposed 20 mile sweep into southwestern Korea from Chinju, while other elements of that division encountered light to moderate resistance in a northwestern advance. The US 2nd Division continued to encounter sporadic resistance in its advance north and west of Anui.

The US 24th was held up by well-emplaced enemy defenses 6 miles east of Taejon, indicating that the enemy is concentrating for a defense of that city (a late press report announced the fall of Taejon after a bitter engagement on the eastern approaches to the city).

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North and west of Taegu, the US 1st Cavalry Division and the ROK 1st Division continued to advance against light to moderate enemy resistance.

In the ROK zone of action, the ROK forces continued an almost unopposed sweep through the mountainous east coast sector. Reports of enemy fortification activities in the vicinity of Yongwol may foreshadow a more determined enemy defense in this area.

Navy

UN carrier aircraft supported ground troops and attacked enemy transportation facilities in the Seoul area. Fleet units patrolled both coasts and reported increased enemy mining activity on the west coast.

Air

Adverse weather and the lack of suitable targets reduced UN combat sorties to half of a normal day's operations. B-29's continued destruction of railroad facilities in North Korea.

II. General Situation

The first reports of North Korean POW interrogations dealing with psychological matters reveal conflicting attitudes of the North Koreans toward UN forces and the Republic of Korea. Some prisoners of war claim that the thorough and effective Communist propaganda has convinced all North Koreans that their case is righteous and has aroused considerable antagonism toward the "foreign controlled government of the Republic of Korea." Other prisoners assert, however, that many North Koreans are skeptical of extravagant Communist propaganda, and retain considerable faith in the US intentions and capabilities in Korea.

DM-111

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

29 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

The North Koreans are attempting to disengage their forces in the Seoul area, but UN troops made only limited advances to the west and east of Seoul. South of Suwon, a concentration of enemy motorized and armored units has been reported. UN units continued to advance at will in the south and east. Advanced elements of US forces are in the area of Kwangju, 32 miles from the Korean west coast, while a spearhead of the ROK forces on the east coast has passed through the south Korean industrial city of Samchok. (According to the press, advance ROK elements have reached the 38th parallel on the east coast.) UN naval and air units continue to provide effective close support and to destroy North Korean lines of communication.

Ground

Continued northward enemy movement out of Seoul indicates an enemy desire to disengage his major elements. The US 1st Marine Division has secured the city and is rounding up enemy stragglers. The 187th Airborne Regiment advanced northward along the Kimpo peninsula after repulsing an enemy attack. To the east of Seoul, the ROK 17th Regiment repulsed another enemy attack. South of Seoul, an enemy concentration has been reported in the Suwon area held by elements of the US 7th and 1st Cavalry Divisions.

Units of UN forces advanced at will throughout most of southwestern Korea. The 24th Regiment of the US 25th Division was last reported in the vicinity of Kwangju, a major south Korean industrial city 32 miles from the west coast. The US 24th Division secured Taejon, while to the south the 38th Regiment of the US 2nd Division secured the city of Chonju.

In the ROK zones to the east, sporadic resistance was encountered by the ROK 8th Division in the mountains near Dungei.

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The ROK Capital Division captured the major south Korean electric power plant at Yongwol, while the ROK 3rd Division passed through the east coast industrial city of Samchok in their swift advance toward the 38th parallel. (Press reports state that ROK elements have reached the parallel.)

Navy

UN surface units provided gun fire support for the swiftly advancing ROK units on the east coast, while other fleet units stood off Inchon to execute fire missions on call. Carrier aircraft assisted in the reduction of enemy pockets in Seoul and harassed enemy movement in the area. Carrier pilots report that enemy tanks in the Seoul area are showing an unusual resistance to methods of attack heretofore successful. Although no clarifying statement has been received, this report may confirm other reports that the North Koreans now have the heavier Joseph Stalin model tank.

Air

UN air operations increased to 721 effective sorties with improved weather, but 71 combat sorties were termed "ineffective" due to lack of suitable enemy targets. B-29's attacked rail marshalling yards and trackage in North Korea.

II. General Situation

A French news service reports from Tokyo that on 28 September the North Korean radio requested the good offices of the United Nations to end hostilities. No confirmation of such a report from this frequently unreliable news agency has been received from official UN or US sources.

President Rhee, US Ambassador Muccio, and General MacArthur have entered Seoul, and responsibility for civil administration of the liberated city was turned over to Rhee by MacArthur in a formal ceremony.

DM-112

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30 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

Organized enemy resistance has ended in the Seoul area and strong UN combat patrols are engaged in mopping up remaining pockets of the enemy. UN forces continued their rapid advance from southeastern Korea against light and scattered enemy resistance. US elements are within ten miles of Kusan on the west coast. According to official reports, ROK elements are still 15 miles south of the 38th parallel on the east coast. Increasing numbers of floating mines have been sighted along the coasts, and a second US destroyer has suffered heavy damage from hitting a mine off the east coast just north of the 38th parallel.

Ground

Only scattered and light enemy resistance remains in southern Korea as UN forces continue their rapid deployment throughout the area to cut off and eliminate scattered enemy formations. Organized enemy units in the Seoul area have withdrawn north or have been eliminated in combat, and UN ground units are clearing enemy remnants from the Inchon peninsula north of Kimpo. In southwestern Korea, US troops have entered the rail junction town of Iri and are moving along the road from Iri to the seaport of Kusan. In south and central Korea, UN units are blocking enemy routes of retreat to the north and are reducing scattered enemy pockets of resistance. In the northeast, ROK units have advanced to within 20 miles of the 38th parallel on a road 15 miles inland from the east coast, while other units are within 15 miles of the parallel on the east coast road. Enemy units retreating to the north before the ROK advance appear to be avoiding heavy contact.

Navy

A second US destroyer has been damaged by a floating mine in the Japan Sea just north of the 38th parallel off the Korean east coast. A ROK ship damaged earlier by a mine sank just before reaching her wharf. Increasing numbers of mines are being sighted off the coasts of Korea and are presenting a serious hazard to UN naval operations.

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Air

UN aircraft continued to provide close support for the advancing troops throughout South Korea. Medium bombers struck transport and communication facilities in North Korea.

II. General Situation

No significant developments have been reported in the past 24 hours.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

2 October 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

Elements of the ROK 3rd and Capital Divisions have taken the North Korean east coast town of Yangyang, and other ROK and US units in South Korea are eliminating minor pockets of resistance and blocking routes of retreat to the north. Two UN mine sweepers sustained damage as a result of mines on the south and east coasts. Air activities were limited to strikes on North Korean lines of communication and close support missions.

Ground

Elements of two ROK Divisions--the 3rd and the Capital--have crossed the 38th Parallel on the east coast and have advanced beyond Yangyang. A UP correspondent accompanying the ROK units reports that ROK forces were well received by the inhabitants of the occupied town of Yangyang. Other UN units continue to move toward the border encountering sporadic resistance in major communications centers. Forces in southwestern Korea report that the enemy is attempting to infiltrate toward the border through UN blockade. US Marine units encountered resistance near the South Korean communications center of Uijongbu north of Seoul as the 187th Airborne Regiment reported the Kumpo Peninsula west of Seoul cleared.

Navy

A US mine sweeper hit a mine on the east coast and a ROK mine sweeper hit a mine in the approaches to the southwestern harbor of Mokpo. UN naval units fired a small number of on-call missions for ground units in the Seoul area. Carrier aircraft continued attacking roads in the parallel region north of Seoul.

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Air

UN fighter bombers ranged over North Korea from advanced airfields, while B-29's continued attacks to destroy the North Korean rail net.

II. General Situation

US Ambassador Muccio reports that loss of life and property damage in Seoul and the surrounding area are "terrible and beyond description." Food is short, there is no water or electricity and the health hazard is great. Muccio states that although the population is in dire straits as a result of the harsh experiences of the last three months, the people are remarkably cheerful. President Rhee and virtually all members of the Korean Cabinet are in Seoul. Steps are being taken to clear away the debris and efforts are being made to restore electricity and water supplies as soon as possible.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

3 October 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

Major elements of the ROK forces continue to advance into North Korea along the east coast, with the point of deepest penetration being 25 miles north of the 38th parallel. US Marine units encountered stiffening resistance from two new major enemy units in advancing north and northeast of Seoul. UN forces in the south continued redeployment to block more effectively enemy northward movement. UN naval and air units provided support to ground units.

Ground

Elements of the ROK 3rd Division maintained a steady rate of advance into North Korea against almost no resistance. As of early afternoon of 3 October (Korean time), UN air observers reported ROK troops 25 miles north of the 38th parallel on the east coast road. To the south of the ROK 3rd Division line of advance, the ROK Capital Division is reported attacking westward along the road from Yangyang to Hangye-ri. Other advance elements of the ROK forces are now within eight miles of the parallel. Two US Marine regiments advancing north and northeast of Seoul encountered the North Korean 27th Brigade in the Munsan area and the 17th Division in the Uijongbu area. (The press reports the capture of Uijongbu by the US Marines.) In the southern zone, units of the UN forces continued to re-deploy in an effort to block more effectively the enemy's routes of escape to the north. The enemy threw a roadblock across the Kumchon-Taejon road during the night of 1 October and 2,000 North Korean soldiers reportedly moved northward. The 27th Regiment of the US 25th Division linked up with ROK Marines near the port of Yosu on the south coast of Korea.

Navy

UN naval units patrolled the Korean east and west coasts. No fire missions were requested. Carrier aircraft were active in the Seoul area.

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Air

Lack of enemy resistance in South Korea produced a new low in close support missions with only 27 flown. Fighter-bombers continued to range over North Korea, while B-29's dropped 219 tons of bombs on the North Korean Army training center at Nanam, on the east coast near Chongjin.

II. General Situation

South Korean soldiers are being instructed by ROK Army Headquarters to act in North Korea as the "protector" and not the conqueror of North Korean civilians, who are to be treated as liberated brothers, not enemies. The ROK Army also is to demonstrate by the example of good conduct that democratic rule is superior to the police methods of Communists.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

422784

4 October 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

UN pilots are sighting and attacking extensive vehicle convoys moving south toward Pyongyang. While mopping up operations continued throughout southern Korea, ROK troops advanced farther into North Korea along the east coast and secured the town of Kansong, over 40 airline miles north of the 38th parallel.

Ground

The mop-up of remnant enemy groups is continuing throughout southern Korea, with UN forces capturing approximately 2,000 prisoners. Nearly 30,000 North Korean prisoners have been taken, most of them since 15 September. ROK Marines made an amphibious landing at the southwestern port city of Mokpo and secured the area. Preliminary reports indicate enemy troops massacred 500 civilians in Mokpo before withdrawing from the city. North of Seoul, US Marines secured Uijongbu against light enemy opposition. The ROK 8th Division moved into position for further advances to the north toward the 38th parallel. The ROK 3rd Division continued to move along the east coast road north of the 38th parallel against light enemy opposition and secured the town of Kansong, 43 airline miles above the parallel.

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Navy

US naval units on the east coast supported the advance of the ROK 3rd Division and patrolled above the 38th parallel north as far as Chongjin, near the Manchurian border. The crews of the fishing junks intercepted in this area were generally composed of men over 40.

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Air

UN pilots reported extensive vehicle movements between the Yalu River and Pyongyang. One pilot reported extensive convoys moving southward in the Pachon area just north of the Chongchon River, with vehicles bumper-to-bumper and up to 150 trucks per convoy. Bad weather is hampering observation and interdiction.

II. General Situation

A Radio Pyongyang broadcast of 2 October indirectly admits for the first time that UN troops have reached the 38th parallel. The broadcast, quoting a communique from the North Korean People's Army Headquarters, stated that the North Korean forces "easily checked" a UN attempt "to invade the Northern Half."

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

5 October 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

Enemy elements throughout South Korea have lost all organizational cohesion as individual units and are attempting to hide in the hills during the day and withdraw to the north by any possible route by night. The elimination of these enemy pockets continued, but enemy forces attempting to regroup near the 38th parallel for the defense of North Korea were given a respite as UN ground forces consolidated their positions and bad weather restricted UN air operations. ROK forces pushed along the east coast road, however, and advanced against negligible opposition to a position about ten miles north of Kosong.

Ground

Enemy troop concentrations with tanks and artillery are reported in the 38th parallel area astride the main roads running north and northwest of Seoul into North Korea. Within South Korea, however, enemy remnants appear to have lost all organizational cohesion and are attempting to withdraw to the north by small trails at night. The ROK 3rd Division, followed by the ROK Capital Division, has advanced another ten miles from Kosong on the east coast road leading to Wonsan.

Navy

UN naval vessels patrolled both the east and west coasts of Korea but reported no unusual enemy activity.

Air

Bad weather restricted UN air operations, but bombers were able to make visual strikes against North Korean marshalling yards, bridges, and military training camps. In the Hungnam area, seven enemy tanks moving on the road were destroyed by UN air action.

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II. General Situation

US Ambassador Muccio reports from Seoul that the general populace appears most happy to be relieved of the Communist occupation and that even the Korean national police (who were feared and disliked before the war) received widespread and continuous applause when they returned to Seoul and paraded through the streets on 1 October. Apparently most Communists and Communist sympathizers left Seoul with the North Korean Army, which also forced many hostages to accompany the retreat.

ECA officials report from Seoul that preliminary surveys indicate major industries in Seoul are largely destroyed or burned out. Of the 150,000 spindles in the Seoul area, only 3,200 appear to be intact with two large textile mills totally destroyed and two others largely destroyed. The people of Seoul are hungry and will require immediate imports of food to sustain them at least until December when the 1950 rice crop, which appears adequate, should be available for distribution.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

6 October 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

As ROK units north of Kosong in North Korea began to meet stubborn resistance in their drive toward Wonsan, the ROK 6th Division jumped off from the South Korean border city of Chunchon in an attack on the North Korean city of Hwachon. North of Seoul, elements of the US 1st Corps continued to assemble. In preparation for an attack on the South Korean border city of Kaesong, elements of the US 1st Cavalry Division secured a bridgehead across the lightly defended Imjin River (in South Korea). Other UN units continued moving northward and westward throughout South Korea to assume new positions. Naval forces maintained patrols around the Korean coast. UN air units provided close support fire for ROK troops on the east coast, as heavy bombers attacked the North Korean ammunition storage area at Kan-ni with excellent results.

Ground

The ROK 3rd Division, after penetrating 60 miles into North Korea along the east coast, was halted by a determined enemy rearguard action. A prisoner of war reports that three North Korean divisions formerly on the Pusan perimeter are reorganizing in the Wonsan area. The ROK Capital Division is now advancing westward toward Yanggu, six miles north of the Parallel. The ROK 6th Division has launched an attack toward the city of Hwachon, about ten miles north of the Parallel. North of Seoul, units of the US 1st Corps, the ROK II Corps and the UK 27th Brigade continued to assemble in preparation for an attack to the north. Elements of the US 5th Cavalry Regiment secured a lightly-defended bridgehead across the Imjin River below the 38th Parallel. As these units continued to assemble in the Uijongbu area, the US IX Corps with the ROK 11th Division attached, continued to eliminate enemy pockets in the southwest and to secure the supply route from Pusan.

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Navy

UN naval units maintained patrols of Korean waters, with emphasis on anti-mine and anti-submarine operations. A surface task force is standing by to provide fire support for ROK forces on the east coast.

Air

UN air units provided close support to the ROK 3rd and Capital Division on the east coast. B-29s attacked the North Korean arsenal and ammunition storage area of Kan-ni near Pyongyang with excellent results. Fighter-bombers attacked North Korean communication areas and targets of opportunity.

II. General Situation

No significant developments have been reported during the past 24 hours.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

7 October 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

Substantial elements of four ROK divisions have now crossed the 38th Parallel attacking northwards. Although the advance of the ROK 3rd Division deep in North Korean territory on the east coast continued, the ROK 6th Division is reported to have met determined resistance in the North Korean border town of Hwachon. The US I Corps continued to assemble north of Seoul and to relieve US X Corps units which revert to reserve status. In the south, the US IX Corps and attached units are establishing security and eliminating remaining enemy pockets. UN naval forces maintained constant patrols along the Korean coast line. UN air units again gave close support to ROK troops on the east coast, while B-29's for the second day hit the arsenal-ammunition supply area of Kan-ni.

Ground

As the ROK I Corps reduced enemy resistance in its northward drive and continued to advance past Tongchon along the North Korean east coast, elements of two divisions of the ROK II Corps crossed the 38th Parallel north of Seoul and north of Chunchon. The US I Corps and ROK II Corps have relieved the US X Corps, now in reserve, in the Seoul area. Elements of the US 1st Cavalry Division expanded their bridgehead across the Imjin River north of Seoul, as the balance of the division and the US 24th and ROK 1st Divisions continued to assemble for an attack to the north. The US IX Corps continued aggressive patrols throughout southeastern Korea in eliminating remaining enemy pockets and securing the main supply route.

Navy

UN naval units continued patrolling Korean waters and standing by for on-call fire missions by ground troops. However, no calls for gun fire support were received.

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Air

UN air forces flew 292 combat sorties in close support of ground troops. Fighter-bombers and heavy bombers attacked lines of communication and military installations. For the second consecutive day, B-29's hit the Kan-ni arsenal-ammunition storage area.

II. General Situation

No significant developments were reported during the past 24 hours.

DM-119

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

9 October 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

Enemy resistance increased in the Wonsan area as elements of the ROK 3rd Division advanced to within eight airline miles of the outskirts of that important port city. In the central area, ROK units met heavy enemy artillery fire, but occupied Hwachon, 8 miles north of the 38th Parallel. UN units continued to assemble north of Seoul in the Kaesong area, and advanced patrols are meeting heavy enemy artillery and small arms fire north of Kaesong. Scattered enemy units in southern Korea continued sporadic harassing action against UN supply lines and installations.

Ground

An estimated enemy regiment opposed elements of the ROK 3rd Division in its advance along the east coast road to within eight airline miles of Wonsan. Other elements of the ROK 3rd Division moved inland and occupied Anbyon, approximately 9 miles south of Wonsan. Elements of the ROK Capital Division, moving north against negligible enemy opposition on roads 20 miles inland from the east coast, reached the town of Hoeyang, 30 miles south of Wonsan. In central Korea, the ROK 6th Division occupied Hwachon and drove two enemy battalions out of the city to the north. The ROK 8th Division encountered stiff enemy resistance just across the 38th Parallel at the town of Yonchon in the main Seoul-Wonsan corridor. The ROK 7th Division became the fifth major UN unit to cross the parallel as it advanced northeast from Uijongbu to take Yongpyong. Elements of the US 1st Cavalry Division met strong enemy resistance north of Kaesong. Scattered enemy units continued harassing action in South Korea with one group of 1500 raiding the central city of Kumsan.

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Navy

There was no significant enemy activity on either coast, but UN patrols continued to sight and destroy enemy mines. The first UN supply ship berthed successfully at Kumsan.

Air

Pilots continued to report numerous enemy vehicle convoys moving in North Korea with the general trend of the movement south towards Pyongyang and Wonsan.

II. General Situation

No significant developments have been reported within the past 48 hours.

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